りぼん
http://ribon.shueisha.co.jp
LOVE BABY
YOKO MAKI
DV wishes you a real
Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year!

YOSHITSUNE

遮那王 義経

沢田ひろふみ

SAWADA HIROFUMI

①

MONTHLY SHONEN MAGAZINE COMICS

KCGM762

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遮那王 義経①

沢田ひろふみ

SAWADA HIROFUMI

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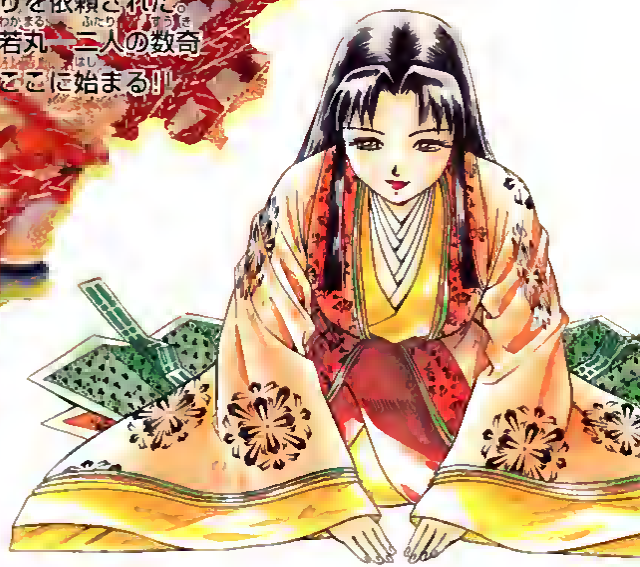
時は平安時代末。旅芸人の少年・漂太は自分と外見がふたつの牛若丸（源義経）の身代わりを依頼された。漂太と牛若丸、二人の数奇な運命がここに始まる!!



MONTHLY SHONEN MAGAZINE COMICS

Shana oh Yoshitsune

by Hirofumi Sawada

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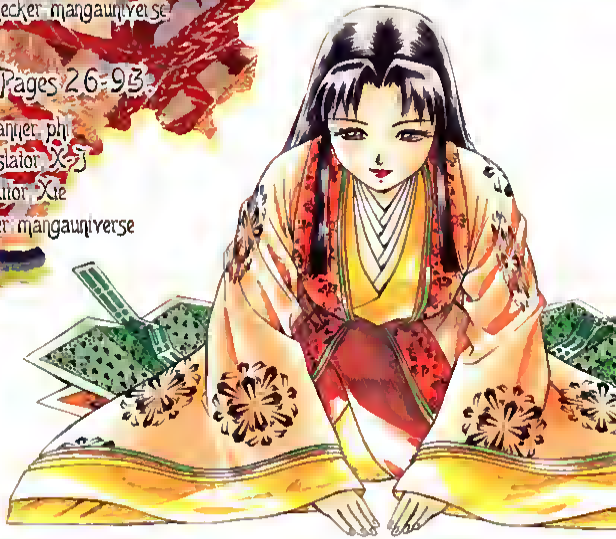

HIROFUMI SAWADA
SHANA OH YOSHITSUNE
1

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東洋史研究所
SO THIS IS THE ANCIENT SCROLL THAT YOU FOUND?
YES SIR! WE FOUND THIS HIDDEN BENEATH THE FLOOR WHEN TEARING DOWN THE OLD TEMPLE IN KYOTO --
THEREFORE... WE WANT TO HEAR WHAT PROFESSOR OOTA HAS TO SAY ABOUT THE CONTENTS THAT WERE RECORDED.
I SEE.

HMM... YES INDEED...
BUT THIS ANCIENT HAND-WRITTEN SCROLL HAS A LOT OF FAULTY HISTORY FACTS WRITTEN IN THE BACK OF IT!
ANALYZING FROM ITS CARBON ELEMENT AND PAPER MATERIAL, THIS THING IS CERTAINLY FROM EIGHT HUNDRED YEARS AGO!
ガチャ
THE RESULTS HAVE ARRIVED, MR. YOSHIKURA!
WELL THEN, I SHALL READ IT!
AN OBJECT FROM THE GEMPEI PERIOD EIGHT HUNDRED YEARS AGO, YOU SAY?
OH... THIS IS A RECORD ABOUT USHIWAKAMARU!

DOES IT SAY ANYTHING ABOUT HIM BEING THE MONGOLIAN LEADER GHENGIS KHAN?
BE QUIET, MITA-KUN!
USHIWAKA-MARU WAS LATER ON CALLED MINAMOTO NO YOSHITSUNE RIGHT?
THE ONE WHO TOOK BENKEI IN AS HIS SUBJECT...?
YES, I ALSO BELIEVE THE THINGS WRITTEN IN THIS TO BE FACTS!
IT'S MUCH MORE RELIABLE THAN HIS BIOGRAPHY, "GIKEIKI"!*
*Gikeiki - The Tale of Yoshitsune
WHY... THIS IS A GREAT DISCOVERY ...
USHIWAKA-DONO...
SHOAN FOURTH YEAR,
TWENTIETH MARCH, LUNAR CALENDAR,
WORRIED ABOUT?
BUT WHAT I'M WORRIED ABOUT IS FROM THIS SENTENCE ON.

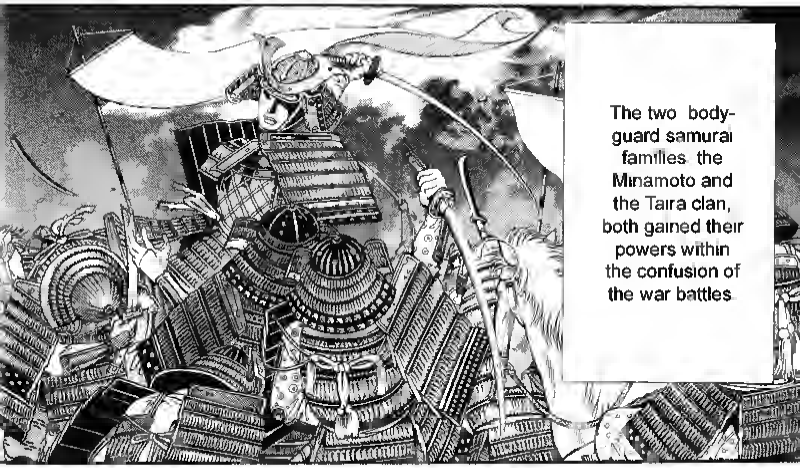
DIED...
AT THE AGE OF SIXTEEN?
Wh... What?!
HE COULDN"T POSSIBLY HAVE DIED...
BUT...
EVERY HISTORIC EVENT AFTER THAT INCIDENT ARE ALL CORRECT IN THIS DOCUMENT.
HOW... HOW CAN THIS BE! BY THE TIME YOSHITSUNE STARTED HIS HISTORICAL MOVEMENTS,
HE WAS ALREADY TWENTY-TWO YEARS OLD!

TH-THEN IN THAT CASE, WHO WAS THE MINAMOTO NO YOSHITSUNE,
THAT LED THE PUNITIVE EXPEDITION AGAINST THE TAIRA CLAN?
IT HAS ALL BEEN RECORDED IN THIS DOCUMENT.
THIS IS ANOTHER ASTONISH-ING...
YOSHITSUNE LEGEND!

Chapter 1 Hyouta and Ushiwakamaru

It was during the time when the powerful imperial family and the aristocrat family, the Fujiwara clan, were having a heated battle over power

This took place in the late Heian Period



The two bodyguard samurai families the Minamoto and the Taira clan, both gained their powers within the confusion of the war battles

Now they rule over sixty states in Japan

The Taira family obtained victory under Kiyomori's lead and thus won the allegiance of the Fujiwara aristocratic family

A conflict finally broke out between leader of the Minamoto family, Minatono no Yoshitomo, and the leader of the Taira family, Taira no Kiyomori.

It was in this kind of period,
that the story took place in Kyoto...
Eiman First Year (1165)
COME BUY WINE!
WINE, WINE!
"The Nokoshita" has come to Kyoto for the first time!
The all time famous performance troup...
Hey everyone! Come take a look!

AND NOW ...
Ha!
パチ パチ パチ パチ パチ
クル クル クル
"THE THREE MEN TOWER"
Will it be a success or failure? You be the witnesses...!
We're finally going to attempt the challenging "The Three Men Tower" technique.
Oh! These kids are extraordinary!
パチ パチ パチ パチ パチ
READY
WE'RE GOING FOR IT— AKAHANA
Ha!
THEN THE NEXT ONE WILL DEFINITELY MAKE YOUR BREATH STOP!
EVERYONE, IF THIS HAS AMAZED YOU...

We're going to...
send another one on top!
Try it out, Rin!
EH?
The girl is going to do it?
That's impossible!
#7
#7
うるっ
DO... DO I HAVE TO...
SO YOU HAVE TO TRY!
RIN, WE'RE ORPHANS, WE HAVE NOBODY TO RELY ON—
THEREFORE, WE HAVE TO DEPEND ON OURSELVES TO SURVIVE!
I... I...
Hyouta! Rin's still not able to do this!
You do it yourself, as usual!

YOU READY? LET'S GO!
HM...
OKAY, RIN WILL TRY...
READY...
ドキ
ドキ
ドキ
ドキ
ドキ
ストン
バ
I... I DIDT IT!
All right!

Ah!
Ah! She's going to fall!
Ri... Rin!
AH!
Stay in your positions, guys!
Wha... What!

トッ
ガシッ
ハァハァ
クルクル
Hyouta
!!

ウオオ
Wow! Did you see that?
Un-believ-able!
UH...
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, RIN?
I'M SORRY, I FAILED...
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? THAT WAS AWESOME FOR A FIRST TIME!
EVEN BETTER THAN ME ON MY FIRST TRY!
EH? BETTER THAN HYOUTA?
WELL DONE, RIN!
YOU WERE TERRIFIC!
HYOUTA SAVED RIN,
SO HYOUTA'S TERRIFIC TOO!

YES,
WE'VE FINALLY FOUND HIM.
LA... LADY, THAT CHILD ...
It was your reckless act that caused all this!
This is not a joke! Hyouta!
WE WILL BE ABLE TO MAKE TONS OF MONEY TODAY!
YOU SAW MY AMAZING ACT, DIDN'T YOU?
You're always like this!
SEE? THIS HEAVY FEELING...
YOU GOT ALL THE MONEY, RIN?
CALM DOWN KAJIKA... JUST WATCH!

コロン
Eh? It is so light!
Hmm... come to think of it, there's really no one left...
Eh?
Well, that's because when I was ready to collect, the people were already gone...
How can this be? How come there's a lot less than before?
Looks like there's something going on over there ...
Better check it out fast!
I've heard it's coming this way!
ザワ
ザワ

Kii
Kii
SHARI

WOW... TROOPS OF THE EMPEROR!
WHAT A SIGHT!
Guess this is what the people came to look at.
THAT'S NOT RIGHT, LITTLE MISS.
EH?
THIS TROOP BELONGS TO THE TAIRA FAMILY.
THE TAIRA FAMILY?

THE ONE WHO'S SITTING IN THERE IS THE NEPHEW OF TAIRA NO KIYOMORI-SAMA...
A YOUNG MASTER WHO JUST TURNED EIGHT THIS YEAR.
EH? HE'S THE SAME AGE AS US. BUT IN A BIG TROOP LIKE THAT.
CHE!
THE TAIRA FAMILY SURE IS AMAZING.
WHAT'S SO GREAT ABOUT THAT THING ANYWAY?
BEING SO PRIDEFUL AND MERRY WHILE I CAN'T EARN A SINGLE PENNY
TO HELL WITH THE TAIRA FAMILY... THEY SHOULD GO EAT THE SHIT OUT OF THEMSELVES!
HYOUTA ...

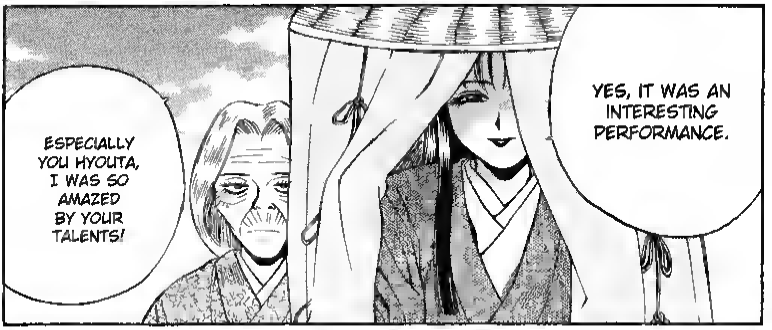
BETTER BE CAREFUL!
YOU MUSTN'T INSULT THE TAIRA FAMILY OUT IN THE PUBLIC LIKE THAT.
WHA...?
YOU'LL BE IN BIG TROUBLE IF ONE OF THE OFFICIALS HEARS ABOUT IT.
Le-let go of me!
Who are you anyway?

MY NAME IS TOKIWA.
WOW... WHAT A PRETTY PERSON ...
TOKIWA ?

AH... YOU ARE THE PERSON WHO GAVE ME THE MONEY

WHAT IS THE MATTER, HYOUTA?
N... NO! IT'S JUST THAT THIS PERSON SUDDENLY

EH?
YOU WERE ONE OF OUR SPECTATORS?


YES, IT WAS AN INTERESTING PERFORMANCE.
ESPECIALLY YOU HYOUTA, I WAS SO AMAZED BY YOUR TALENTS!

I REALLY WANT MY FAMILY TO SEE YOUR PERFOR-MANCES,
SO... CAN YOU COME OVER TO MY HOUSE FOR A WHILE?
TH... THANK YOU...
OH YES, MAY I ASK ALL OF YOU A FAVOR?
A FAVOR?

GO TO YOUR HOUSE?
EH? THAT'D BE A FIRST TIMER! SOUNDS INTERESTING
WAIT!
YOU WANT TO DO BUSINESS WITH US LIKE THIS?
YOU THINK YOU CAN SEE US PERFORM WITH ONLY A FEW COINS?
...
スッ
WILL THIS BE ENOUGH?
ジャラッ
I WILL DO MY BEST!

WE'RE HERE.
?
HUSH! DON'T ALERT THEM.
WE'VE GOT HIM... MY LADY.
WHOSE HOUSE IS THIS?
LORD FUJIWARA NO NAGANARI'S MANSION.
WOW! WHAT A GRAND MANSION!
FUJIWARA NO NAGA-NARI'S...

WE'RE GOING TO PERFORM IN FRONT OF A NOBLE FAMILY?
FUJI-... FUJIWARA! ISN'T HE AN OFFICIAL OF THE PALACE?
AH...
SO SHE'S FROM A NOBLE FAMILY.
LORD NAGANARI'S WIFE.
THAT LADY TOKIWA IS...
NOBLE FAMILY...
THEN LET'S START THE PREPARATIONS!
PLEASE WAIT A MINUTE!
PERFORMING IN SUCH PLACE REALLY UNNERVES ME!
THE YARD IS ALSO VERY BIG!

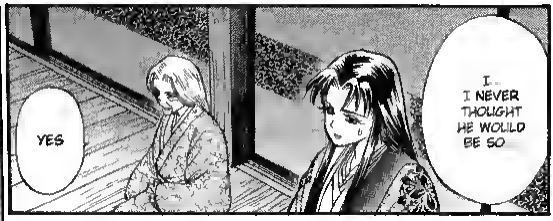
DON'T BE THAT IMPATIENT, IT'S ALREADY LATE TODAY.
YOU SHALL PERFORM ANOTHER DAY.
EH?
I THINK EVERY-ONE SHOULD BE TIRED, SO LET'S HAVE YOU EAT AND STAY OVER FOR THE NIGHT.
STAY STAY OVER?
THAT'S GREAT! WE'RE STAYING AT A NOBLE'S!
IS IT ALRIGHT NOT TO PERFORM?
EVEN THOUGH IT'S A BIT DARK WE CAN STILL PERFORM
HYOUTA,
PLEASE COME WITH ME
EH?
ME...?

OLD LADY, WHERE ARE WE GOING?
ARE YOU LEADING ME TO OUR ROOM?
Scratch
Scratch
SHE'S IGNORING ME
IT LOOKS LIKE . LADY TOKIWA IS VERY FOND OF ME . .
. . .
BESIDES, THEY ALSO PREPARED FOOD AND ROOMS FOR PEOPLE LIKE US TO SLEEP OVER . .
HOWEVER, THIS IS SO STRANGE! IT'S NOT AS THOUGH THEY CAN'T SEE OUR PERFORMANCE DUE TO THE DUSK .
HERE ?
THIS IS ROOM, PLEASE ENTER

!!!
WHY... WHY ARE THERE SO MANY PEOPLE?
ALRIGHT, LET'S BEGIN.
BEGIN WHAT?

HASAKA, IS IT DONE YET?

WHAT IS THIS THING?
IT'S SO DRAGGY!


I... I NEVER THOUGHT HE WOULD BE SO...
YES

HE IS THE CHILD THAT SHIRAN-DONO MENTIONED.

WHY DO I HAVE TO DRESS UP LIKE THIS?
WHAT AM I SUPPOSE TO DO WHILE WEARING THIS?
I CAN'T PERFORM IN THESE CLOTHES!
...
スッ

YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO ANYTHING ANYMORE.
EH?
FROM TOMORROW ONWARDS, YOU WILL BE DRESSED IN THIS OUTFIT...
AND STAY IN THIS MANSION LIKE A GOOD BOY.
YOU CAN ALSO PUT PERFORMING WORKS ASIDE FOR AWHILE

ニコッ
I'LL LIVE HERE AND DON'T HAVE TO PERFORM?
ALTHOUGH I'D BE MORE THAN HAPPY TO DO SO... BUT IS THIS FOR REAL?
...
I... I GET IT! THEN YOU'LL HAVE TO PREPARE FOOD AND EVERYTHING FOR ME!
SHE REALLY DOES LIKE ME VERY MUCH!
hmm mm

I'LL STAY FOR NOW AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS
ALTHOUGH I DON'T QUITE GET IT. .
THE FOOD THAT NOBLES EAT SHOULD BE SUPERB!
キョロ
キョロ
peeing
BUT, THIS GREEN WALL IS SO LONG—
IT FEELS SO GOOD TO PEE IN A NOBLE'S GARDEN !
exhale~~~

ジャバ
WOW!
WOW!
ジャバ
WOW!
WHA-... WHAT?
WHO'S THERE?
WAH!
ナナナナ
WHO... WHO WAS THAT? IT REALLY GAVE ME A BIG FRIGHT!

SHIRAN-DONO.
WE'VE FOUND THAT CHILD,
AND I WAS VERY ASTONISHED BY THE RESSEMBLANCE!
ACCORDINGLY TO SHIRAN-DONO'S FORTUNE-TELLING, WE DID FIND THE CHILD IN THE NORTH-EAST DIRECTION.
Wife
Tokiwa-gozen
AS EXPECTED FROM SHIRAN-DONO.
Financial Administrator
Fujiwara no Naganari

"Onmyouji" is someone who can foretell the future, gets premonitions and is skillful at dealing with immortal beings someone who has mystenous powers that are beyond that of a mortal's
Onmyouji:
Shiran
IS FOR THE SAKE OF MY SON.
EVERYTHING,
IF WE CAN HAVE THAT CHILD TO BE THE SUBSTITUTE,
THEN EVERYTHING SHOULD BE ABLE TO RUN SMOOTHLY.
I KNOW THIS
BUT WE WILL SUFFER IF WE'RE NOT CAUTIOUS
.....

IS SOMEONE IN HERE?
WHO'S THERE?
A KID?
WHO-.. WHO'S THERE?
SHOW YOURSELF! ARE YOU A THIEF?
You call me a thief?

I'M NOT A THIEF! I'M HYOUTA!
AND WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?
How dare you interrupt me when I'm peeing!
.....
THE NAME
IS...

USHIWAKA-
MARU!

USHIWAKA-MARU?
SO I WAS BROUGHT HERE BY LADY TOKIWA...
THEY SAID THEY WANTED ME TO PERFORM IN FRONT OF EVERYONE...
YOU... WHY ARE YOU HERE AT MY HOUSE?
USHIWAKA'S SUBSTITUTE ...
THAT'S RIGHT, YOU ARE...
SUBSTITUTE?
?
AH!
FROM TOMORROW ONWARDS YOU WILL BE INSIDE IN THIS OUTFIT!
AND STAY IN THIS MANSION LIKE A GOOD BOY!

MOTHER IS TOO GOOD, SO TO SPEAK.
TO BE ABLE TO FIND SOMEONE WHO LOOKS SO MUCH LIKE USHI-WAKA...
WH-WHAT? YOU SAY I LOOK LIKE YOU?
I SEE — SO IT MEANS THEY WANT ME TO BE HIS SUBSTITUTE?
IT'S NOT THAT SHE FELL FOR ME
DOES MY FACE LOOK LIKE THIS?
THIS PALE FACE AND THIS WEAK AND SLIM BODY...
THE SAME!
THE SAME!

USHIWAKA IS NOT VULGAR LIKE YOU ARE—
IT'S REALLY EXACTLY THE SAME!
WH-... WHAT! THIS GUY!
TH-... THEN...
WHAT ABOUT THIS?
DON'T... DON'T JOKE AROUND! IT REALLY PISSES ME OFF TO BE IDENTICAL TO YOU!
Scratch
Scratch

A PLACE WHERE EVEN KAJIKA, AKAHANA AND DAIBUTSU WILL ACCEPT THEIR DEFEATS!
Ah ha ha ha ha
HERE IT SHOULD BE DIFFERENT!
……
ズルッ
IT'S.. IT'S BIGGER THAN MINE!
I-IF...
IF THAT'S SO...
ぐっ
?

!!!
ドルン
グルン
グルン

...
トーン
ナニソレ
EVEN IF WE LOOK THE SAME,
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR YOU TO DO THIS TRICK, RIGHT?
ス
?

WHAT THE? IT'S ONLY A FLUTE!
I HAVE NEVER HEARD ANYTHING SO BEAUTIFUL BEFORE...
IT'S... IT'S SO GOOD...
...

WHAT DO YOU THINK?
THIS SHOULD BE TOO DIFFICULT FOR YOU, RIGHT?
IT CAN'T BE THAT HARD!

ARE YOU READY? LISTEN CAREFULLY!
SO I SHOULD BE ABLE TO PLAY IT TOO!
EVEN RIN CAN PLAY THE FLUTE,
バサ
バサ
バサ
ピ、ピ、ピ、ピ、
AH... EH... IT'S SO WEIRD
HOW COULD I POSSIBLY LOSE TO THIS KIND OF GUY!
ONE... IF I PLAY IT ONE MORE TIME— I'LL DEFINITELY—
PU--
Pffffft

DON'T LAUGH LIKE THAT!
SORRY, SORRY.
Haha hahaha-haha!
DIDN'T YOU SAY YOU WERE GOOD AT IT?
Ahhaha-hahaha-haha!
LET'S COUNT THIS MATCH AS A DRAW!
FINE THEN, THAT WILL DO!

WHAT WAS THAT ALL ABOUT?
THAT I'LL BECOME YOUR SUB-STITUTE,
BUT,
JUST NOW YOU SAID ..
...
SINCE USHI-WAKA WAS 2 YEARS OLD, FOR A FULL PERIOD OF 5 YEARS,
HE HASN'T BEEN ABLE TO SET FOOT OUTSIDE THIS PLACE.
EH? WHY?
IF USHIWAKA GOES OUT JUST LIKE THAT, IT WILL BRING TROUBLE
BECAUSE USHIWAKA MUST ABSOLUTELY STAY HERE.
NOT ONLY TO HIMSELF BUT TO HIS LADY MOTHER AND FATHER AS WELL
JUST GO OUT WHEN YOU FEEL LIKE IT!

USHIWAKA CAN FINALLY STEP INTO THE OUTSIDE WORLD.
SINCE YOU'LL BECOME USHIWAKA'S SUBSTITUTE FROM TOMORROW ONWARDS,
HOW-EVER,
YOU'LL UNDERSTAND TOMORROW
WHY IS IT SO TROU-BLESOME JUST TO GO OUT?
I DON'T GET IT
.....

ガサ
ガサ
I... DON'T UNDER-STAND.....
SEEMS TO BE STEALING ALL THE LIGHT FROM USHI WAKA-DONO'S CONSTELLA-TION?
APPEARED ACCORDINGLY TO THE PREDIC-TION. THIS IS A GOOD THING
USHIWAKA-DONO'S SUBSTITUTE,
THE HAGUN STAR BESIDE IT...
BUT HOW COME WHEN COMPARING THE HONMEI STAR THAT REPRESENTS USHIWAKA-DONO'S LIFE...

IS THIS THE SIGN OF AN UP COMING EVENT,
THAT WILL HAPPEN AROUND USHIWAKA-DONO?

チュン チュン
HYOUTA ...
HYOUTA ...
HOW LONG DO PLAN TO SLEEP?
Wah!
GOOD MORNING!
WHAT'S UP... THIS EARLY IN THE MORNING,
IT'S NOT EARLY! IT'S ALREADY AFTER SUNRISE!
OH... RIN.
OH YEAH, HYOUTA, LOOK!
THE LADY GAVE US THIS MUCH MONEY!
ジャラ
Wow! Great!

THIS JOB IS TOO WAY TOO EASY!
SO I CAN GET THAT MUCH MONEY JUST BY BEING LISHIWAKA'S SUBSTITUTE
THAT IS THE REWARD
IT'S THE REWARD FOR YOU SUBSTITUTING FOR LISHIWAKA-DONO FROM TODAY ONWARDS AND FOR THE FOLLOWING FEW DAYS
WHAT ARE YOU GUYS DOING?
THAT'S RIGHT, RIN
EH? WHERE ARE YOU GUYS GOING?
ガラッ
IT'LL BE GREAT IF WE COULD ALL GO TOGETHER.
SO I'LL BE HERE ALL BY MYSELF
HMPH!
WE'RE GOING TO ACCOMPANY LISHIWAKA-DONO
LOOK! WE ALSO RECEIVED THESE GREAT BOXED LUNCHES!

HE IS THE HEAD OF THIS FAMILY, THE FINANCE ADMINISTRATOR, LORD NAGANARI
OH! THAT'S USHIWAKA'S FATHER
EH?
WHO'S THAT PERSON STANDING NEXT TO USHIWAKA?
HOW LONG IS FOR A WHILE?
A WHILE IS A WHILE!
USHIWAKA, THIS DAY HAS FINALLY ARRIVED.
WE WILL ASK LORD FUJIWARA MITSUHITO-SAMA TO KEEP YOU SECRETLY FOR A WHILE.
...
USHIWAKA ...
USHIWAKA IS A BOY NEVERTHELESS, SO USHIWAKA WILL NOT COMPLAIN EVEN WHEN HE HAS TO BE SEPARATED FROM HIS LADY MOTHER FOR A FEW DAYS!

WE WILL DEFINITELY COME AND BRING YOU HOME!
PLEASE BEAR WITH IT UNTIL THEN!
MOTHER ...
YES,
FOR YOUR SAFETY'S SAKE. THIS WILL BE A SEVEN YEAR SEPARATION UNTIL YOU BECOME AN ADULT.
IF YOU ARE HERE, THERE WILL ALWAYS BE SOMEONE PLOTTING AGAINST YOU.
HE'S ONLY GOING AWAY FOR A FEW DAYS, THIS IS SO EXAGGERATED...
IT'S SO GOOD TO HAVE A MOTHER...

?
USHI-WAKA-DONO, ARE YOU READY?
WE'RE GOING NOW!
AH... PLEASE WAIT!
HYOUTA.
WHAT ?
PLEASE ACCEPT THIS.
FROM TODAY ONWARDS, YOU ARE USHI-WAKAMARU!
IT'S THE FLUTE FROM BEFORE?
REALLY ?
THIS... THIS IS THE ONE THAT YOUNG MASTER ALWAYS KEEPS BY HIS SIDE...

USHIWAKA, TURN AROUND!
EH?
...
WHAT... WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
JUST TURN AROUND.
ぐじゃ
ぐじゃぐじゃ

STOP IT! BRAT!
WHAT... WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
AH!
LOOK GUYS! THAT'S ...
OKAY!
I SEE, THIS WAY
HE LOOKS EXACTLY THE SAME AS THE NORMAL HYOUTA!

DON'T LOOSE THAT PIECE OF CLOTH!
EH?
IT'S MY MOST PRECIOUS THING.
THAT'S THE SHEET THAT WAS WRAPPED AROUND ME,
WHEN I WAS ABANDONED.
ABANDONED?
THIS WAY, YOU ARE ...
HYOUTA!
JUST LEAVE YOUR ROLE TO ME!
I'M COUNTING ON YOU.

キラッ
WE'RE LEAVING NOW!
コワッ
DAIBUTSU, THINK OF SOMETHING OTHER THAN FOOD FOR A CHANGE!
I REALLY WANT TO EAT THAT BOXED LUNCH NOW!
THEN... KAJIKA YOU DON'T WANT YOUR BOXED LUNCH?
UM... UM...

GOOD WORK IT'S TIME TO CHANGE SHIFTS
MY SHIFT'S UP?
TRAVELING ENTERTAINERS ?
YES, IT SEEMS LIKE IT.
LORD NAGANARI IS A NORMAL PERSON AFTER ALL...
THE TAIRA FAMILY'S GUARDS!
ドクン ドクン
IS IT HEAVY? I'LL HELP YOU CARRY IT.
USHIWAKA IS FINE.
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!

OH... OH NO!
I... I USED MY USUAL SPEECH UNCONCIOUSLY!
じ…
!!!
THE TALK JUST NOW
AH!
HUH ?
LET ME SEE YOUR FACE!
WHAT IS IT? OLD MAN.
Scratch
Scratch
Scratch

ILL MANNERED BRATS...
HURRY UP AND GO.
HYOUTA! HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I TOLD YOU NOT TO SCRATCH YOUR DICK!
ゴッ
IT'S NOT POSSIBLE FOR USHIWAKA-DONO TO COME OUT FOR REAL
Scratch
BUT YOU'RE SO GOOD AT ACTING... USHIWAKA-DONO
YOU WERE EXACTLY THE SAME AS HYOUTA!
SORRY ABOUT BEFORE
USHIWAKA-DONO EVERYTHING'S FINE NOW.
I'VE FINALLY COME OUT!
I.. I DID IT...

pat
DON'T WORRY. EVERYTHING WILL BE ALRIGHT
ガチャ
ガチャ
ガチャ

Wahahaha-hahahah!
IT'S SO DELICIOUS, BRING SOME MORE!
THEY SHOULD HAVE GOTTEN FAR BY NOW.
USHIWAKA WANTS ME TO SUBSTITUTE FOR HIM EVEN THOUGH HE'S LEADING SUCH A HAPPY LIFE HERE
WHAT A WEIRD GUY.
ほぐ
ほぐ
giggle~
burp
Exhale ~~
SO FULL. I'M SO FULL.
ガシャ

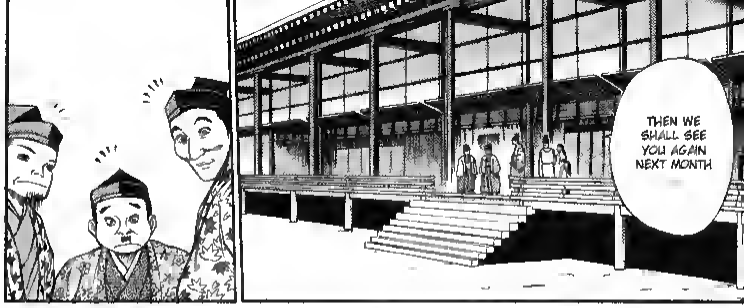
SO... SO FAST!
スースー
OH MY!
I FEEL SLEEPY AFTER EATING...
THIS SLEEPING FACE...
IT'S AS IF USHIWAKA'S REALLY BY MY SIDE...
スヤ
IS TOO MUCH ALIKE!
パフッ
EH?
LADY TOKIWA?

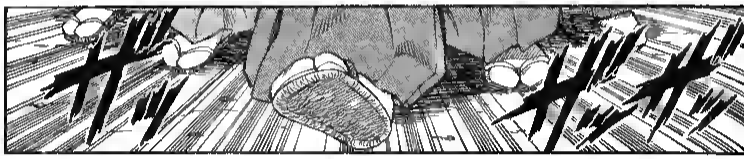
IS THIS THE SMELL OF A MOTHER ....?
SUCH A LOVELY SCENT...
TO HAVE A MOTHER BY MY SIDE...
IS NOT TOO BAD AT ALL

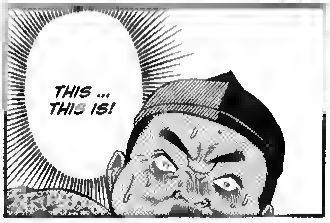
THOSE PARTIES ARE HERE...
LADY.
I UNDERSTAND.
MY TIME TO APPEAR?
IT IS TIME FOR YOUR APPEARANCE
HYOUTA-SAMA, PLEASE WAKE UP!
HM?
DON'T YOU DARE DO ANYTHING RECKLESS!
HEY... IS THAT CLEAR!
I WAS REALLY COMFORTABLE BACK THERE

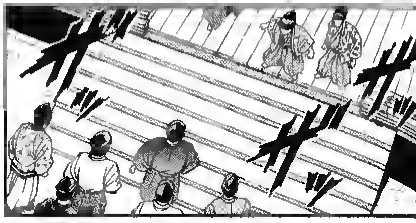
I KNOW ALREADY! SO ANNOYING...
IT'S ALRIGHT AS LONG AS I REMAIN SILENT, RIGHT?
SORRY TO BOTHER YOU SO OFTEN, ADMINISTRATOR.
OH— USHIWAKA-DONO SEEMS FINE, TOO
ROKUHARA?
ARE THESE PEOPLE FROM THE TAIRA FAMILY?
THEN WE SHALL BE HEADING BACK TO ROKUHARA
チラッ
WHAT? THESE GUYS KEEP ON STARING AT ME IT MAKES ME SO FURIOUS

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HARD WORK. PLEASE SEND MY REGARDS TO DAINAGON-SAMA.
EH?
THANK YOU FOR YOUR HARD WORK, TOO.
コクリ
チラ
パタン
WHAT THE... THAT WAS A PIECE OF CAKE!
IF I CAN GET ALL THE DELICIOUS FOOD I WANT JUST BY DOING THIS, THEN I DON'T MIND BEING USHIWAKA AT ALL!
COME, LET'S RETURN TO THE ROOM.
WH-WHAT. THAT'S IT?


THEN WE SHALL SEE YOU AGAIN NEXT MONTH




THIS ... THIS IS!



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IT... IT'S NOTHING ...
THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR HARD WORK!
DON'T... DON'T TELL ME...
WHY IS THERE A SAMURAI PARTY HERE?
HAH!
EXCUSE ME— WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?

LONG TIME NO SEE, TOKIWA!
Ugh!

YOUR TENDER SKIN HASN'T CHANGE AT ALL!
AS... I THOUGHT!
DA-DAINA-GON-SAMA, THIS IS VERY IMPROPER.
IDIOT!
DO YOU KNOW WHO YOU ARE TALKING TO?
EEK!

I... I AM TRULY SORRY!
THINGS ARE TERRIBLE NOW.
WHY IS IT SO NOISY?
WHY IS THAT GUY TREATING LADY TOKIWA LIKE THAT!
WHO'S THAT? IS THAT MONK ALSO A GUEST?
HEY! DON'T COME NEAR!
WHAT'S WRONG? IT'S FINE AS LONG AS I KEEP SILENT ABOUT IT LIKE BEFORE
THAT PERSON IS DAINAGON-SAMA*
...
DAINA-GON?

*Note to readers: Taira no Kiyomori is being called dainagon-sama and dainagon = chief councilor of state

TAIRA NO KIYOMORI-SAMA.
THE TAIRA FAMILY'S LEADER...
Taira no Kiyomori: The man who defeated Genji during the wars of Heiji, and who has rights as powerful as the Emperor himself.
Taira no Kiyomori to Ushiwaka ?
HE IS ALSO THE ONE WHO IMPRISONED USHIWAKA-DONO IN THIS MANSION!

SINCE LADY TOKIWA'S FORMER HUSBAND...
IN ORDER TO SURVIVE, THE LADY WAS FORCED TO MARRY TAIRA NO KIYOMORI-SAMA.
STOOD IN THE OPPOSITION TO THE TAIRA FAMILY.
AND SOON AFTERWARDS, SHE RE-MARRIED TO HERE AND USHIWAKA-MARU...
IT'S THIS OCTOPUS-LIKE MONK ...
WHO'S BULLYING USHIWAKA AND LADY TOKIWA!
DAINA-GON-SAMA
WHAT IS THE PURPOSE FOR YOUR SUDDEN VISIT?
ADMINIS-TRATOR, SO YOU ARE HERE TOO ...
I'M HERE TO SEE TOKIWA WHOM I HAVEN'T SEEN FOR A LONG TIME...
...AND USHIWAKA-DONO!
USHI-WAKA

LORD NAGANARI'S AND LADY TOKIWA'S LIVES WILL BE WASTED!
IF YOU SHOW ANY FLAWS,
GO! GO AND HIDE INSIDE!
IS NOT SOMEONE WHO'LL BE FOOLED BY A STREET PERFORMER LIKE YOU!
THAT DAINAGON-SAMA...
!!?
I'M JUST MERELY A STREET PERFORMER...
SURE, SURE! I GET IT!
JUST LEAVE IT TO LORD NAGANARI AND LADY TOKIWA TO HANDLE IT,
YOU STAY OUT OF IT.
.....

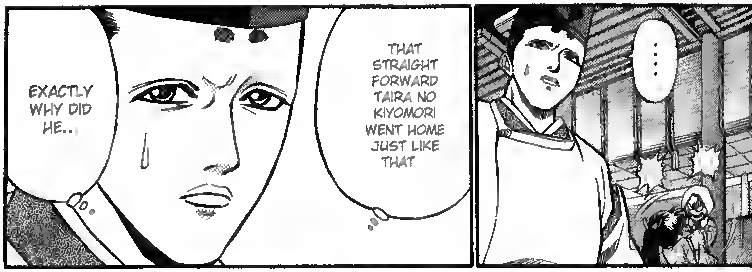
スパーン
STU-... STUPID!
スタ
スタ
EH?
HM?

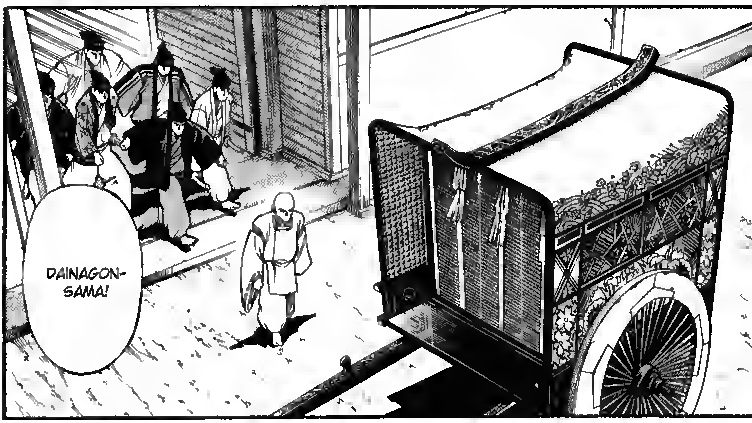
レイト
End

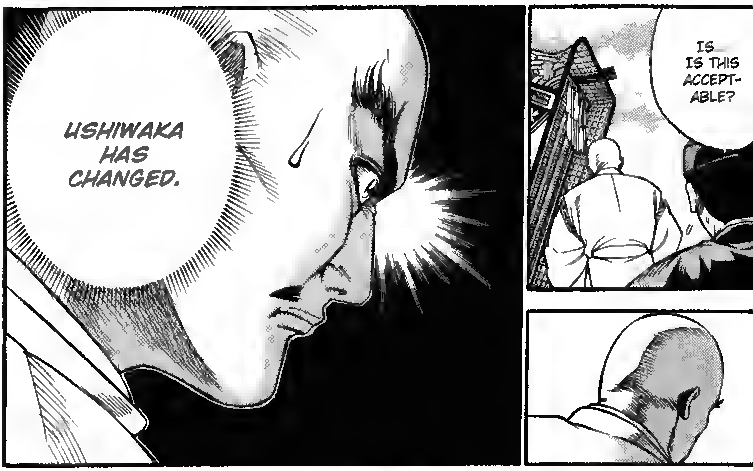
THE JOKE HASN'T GOTTEN FAR ENOUGH, DON'T YOU THINK?
DAINAGON-SAMA!
ガク
……
HE... HE ACTU-ALLY SOME-THING LIKE THAT!
USHIWAKA ...

EVEN IF THE REPLACEMENT PLOT IS NOT DISCOVERED, DOING SOMETHING LIKE THIS...
WILL NEVERTHELESS SENTENCE HIM TO DEATH!
IT'S... IT'S OVER...
HYOUTA...
EVEN IF YOU ARE LADY TOKIWA'S SON....
YOU... BRAT, LOOK WHAT YOU HAVE DONE TO DAINAGON-SAMA
LET'S GO BACK!
EH?
ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
.....

DAINAGON-SAMA!
PLEASE WAIT A MOMENT!
...
LADY TOKIWA, ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
チラッ
DO YOU THINK THAT THEY WILL SHAKE IT OFF LIKE THAT AFTER WHAT YOU DID?
As if she would be!
THEY TURNED BACK WITHOUT CAUSING ANY TROUBLE, ISN'T THAT GOOD ENOUGH?


EXACTLY WHY DID HE..
THAT STRAIGHT FORWARD TAIRA NO KIYOMORI WENT HOME JUST LIKE THAT
...


DAINAGON-SAMA!


USHIWAKA HAS CHANGED.
IS IS THIS ACCEPT-ABLE?

AND THOSE EYES...
HE STILL WALKED UP TO ME WITHOUT ANY FEAR.
ALTHOUGH HE KNEW THAT JUST ONE WORD FROM ME IS ENOUGH TO END SOMEONE'S LIFE,
THAT A SEVEN YEAR OLD CHILD SHOULD HAVE!
THAT'S NOT THE TYPE OF SPIRITUAL STRENGTH...
HOWEVER.. WHAT IS...
HONESTLY ... THERE SHOULDN'T BE ANYTHING THAT CAN SCARE ME.
I AM THE HEAD OF THE RULING FAMILY IN JAPAN,
THIS FEAR ...?

THAT KID IS NO LONGER A BRAT!
KEEP A CLOSER WATCH ON USHIWAKA.
I HAVE TO THINK OF SOME-THING...
DON'T MISS ANYTHING THAT IS OUT OF THE ORDINARY!
YES!

IN THE FUTURE, THAT USHIWAKA ...
MIGHT BECOME SOMEONE WHO WILL THREATEN MY STATUS!
Ah ha ha ha ha
Waaaa aah!
Snap
Snap
END OF CHAPTER 1

Shana oh Yoshitsune

by Hirofumi Sawada

Brought to you by Dragon Voice
(http://dragonvoice.org)

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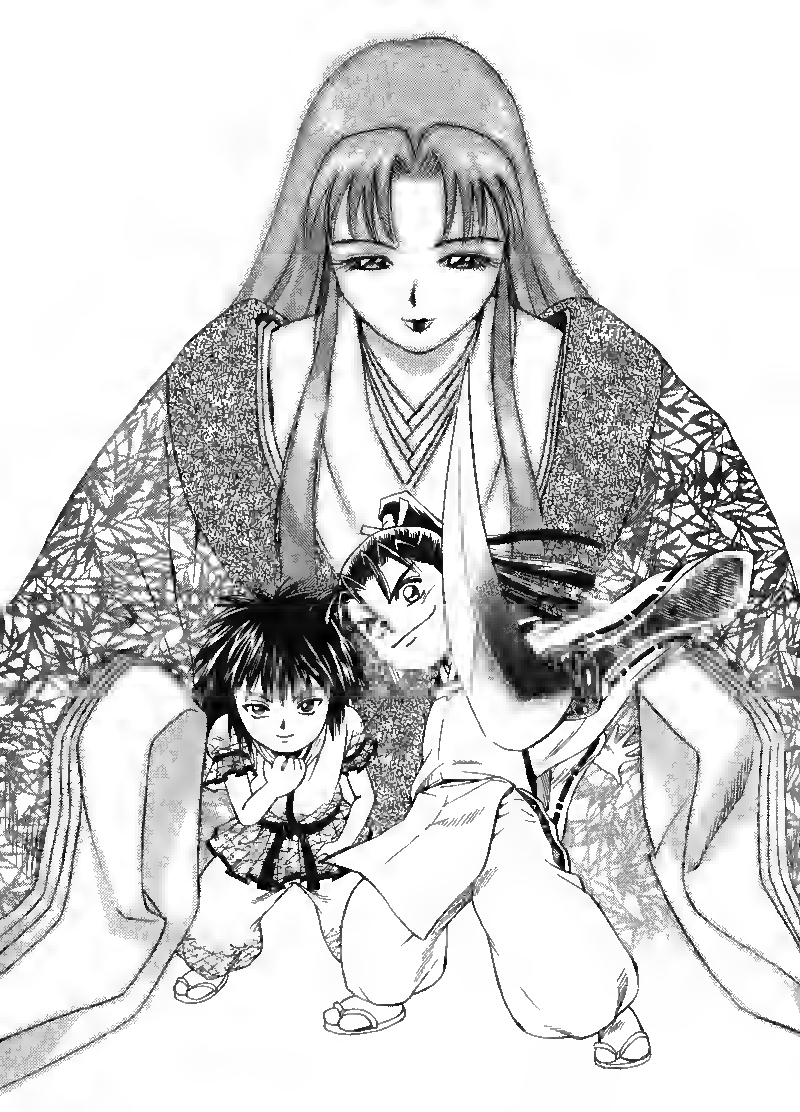


CHAPTER 2 DEPARTURE

Fujiwara no Naganari House-hold
2ND SHIFT, GO GUARD THE EAST DOOR.
WE NEED TO PAY EXTRA ATTENTION TO ANYONE COMING FROM AND GOING TO THE HOUSEHOLD!
YES!
OTHER THAN USHIWAKA-SAMA.
WHAT? HE HIT THAT KIYOMORI-SAMA?
HE HIT DAINAGON-SAMA AND EVEN GAVE HIM A LECTURE. HE IS A BRAVE KID.
BUT WHAT THE HELL CAN A SEVEN-YEAR-OLD KID DO?
IT'S BECAUSE.....
EVEN IF HE IS THE SON OF A HIGH RANKING OFFICIAL...
SIGH... THE AMOUNT OF MAN POWER WE'RE EXPENDING TO SPY ON THIS KID IS RIDICULOUS!
IT'S BECAUSE OF HIS BLOODLINE.

I GUESS THAT'S WHY THERE'S A NEED TO INCREASE THE SURVEILLANCE
HE REALLY DOESN'T VALUE HIS LIFE...
HEY!
Ugh!
Ugh!
GOSSIPING IN FRONT OF ME? BE CAREFUL OF YOUR PETTY LIFE!
SO... SORRY.. GAZAN-DONO
HEY, HURRY, GET TO WORK.
UGH

WHERE ARE YOU? USHI-WAKA-SAMA!
USHI-WAKA-SAMA!
USHI-WAKA-SAMA!
I NEED TO MAKE HIM LEARN ALL THE FORMALITIES OF A NOBLE FAMILY...
IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE SECRET OF HIS IDEN-TITY...
DAMN...
WHERE DID HYOUTA RUN OFF TO?
USHI-WAKA-SAMA!
SHE ONLY KNOWS HOW TO ORDER PEOPLE AROUND, BUT THEN ALWAYS GOES AND DOZES OFF HERSELF!
IT MUST HAVE BEEN REALLY HARD ON USHIWAKA TO HAVE SOMEONE LIKE THAT BOSSING HIM ROUND.
ポリ
ポリ
ポリ
REALLY! WHAT A LONG-WINDED OLD LADY

GOZEN-SAMA...
I DON'T EVEN HAVE THE TIME TO TAKE A BREATHER.
スッ
WHO IS SHE PRAYING TO?
ANCESTORS?
DOESN'T SEEM LIKE IT IT LOOKS LIKE SHE'S PRAYING FOR SOME-THING.
COULD IT BE...
REGARDING USHIWAKA?
AH... HYOUTA-DONO, HAVE YOU FINISHED YOUR HOME-WORK?
EH... UM...
WHAT EXACTLY WOULD YOU CONSIDER FINISHED?

SIGH
ALTHOUGH IT'S PROBABLY BECAUSE I HIT KIYOMORI THAT THE NUMBER OF GUARDS HAVE INCREASED...
THERE ARE A LOT OF MEN FROM THE HEIKE.
OH... YEAH, SOMETHING BIG IS HAPPENING OUTSIDE.
BUT WHY ARE THEY PUTTING USHIWAKA UNDER SURVEILLANCE IN THE FIRST PLACE?
WH-WHAT--SUDDENLY SO SERIOUS?
I NEED TO TELL YOU SOMETHING, HYOUTA-DONO.

GENERAL MINAMOTO NO YOSHITOMO!
USHIWAKA'S FATHER WAS THE GENJI GENERAL THAT WAGED WAR WITH TAIRANO KIYOMORI.
NOTE: HEIKE = TAIKA.
ACTUALLY, USHIWAKA IS THE SWORN ENEMY OF THE HEIKE.
EH?
WHEN GENERAL YOSHITOMO WAS KILLED, I, HIS WIFE, LOOKED AFTER ONE OF YOSHITOMO'S THREE SONS
AFTER THE WAR BETWEEN THE GENJI AND HEIKE ENDED WITH THE DEFEAT OF THE GENJI...
USHIWAKA IS GENJI'S GENERAL'S SON?
THEY WERE STRIPPED OF THEIR RANK AS WARRIORS BY KIYOMORI AND ORDERED TO BECOME MONKS
ALTHOUGH USHIWAKA'S TWO BROTHERS, IMAWAKA AND OTOWAKA, ESCAPED WITH THEIR LIVES

PL-
PLEASE
CAN YOU PLEASE LET HIM STAY WITH ME FOR THE TIME BEING? KIYOMORI-SAMA!

PLEASE! I BEG YOU!
HE'S STILL A BABY!
AS FOR USHIWAKA

BUT...

I CAN STILL UNDERSTAND THE LOVE THE MOTHER HAS FOR HER CHILD
I AM NOT THE DEVIL

Ugh..
YOU HAVE TO LISTEN TO ME...
Tsuch
Tsuch

Waaah
Wah
Wah
HEH HEH HEH ...
AFTER ACCEPTING KIYOMORI'S CONDITION, I MANAGED TO KEEP USHIWAKA BY MY SIDE.
AFTER SOME TIME, I WAS MARRIED INTO FUJIWARA NAGANARI SAMA'S FAMILY.
BUT THEN, KIYOMORI-SAMA, BEING AFRAID OF THE BLOODLINE OF THE GENJI FAMILY, DECIDED TO PUT USHIWAKA...
LET'S RACE TO THE POND!
I WILL NOT LOSE TO YOU!
WAIT !
HA HA!
WAH! HAHA !
YEA!
LET'S PLAY BY THE POND!

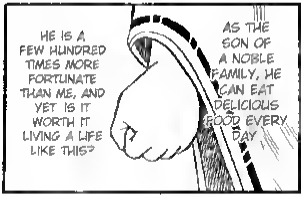
HA HA HA HA!
LET'S INVITE HEISUKE ALSO
HE HAS NOT PLAYED WITH CHILDREN HIS OWN AGE IN FIVE YEARS, NOT SINCE HE WAS TWO YEARS OLD.
HE'S BEEN CONFINED TO THIS BIG HOUSEHOLD ALL THIS TIME
YES... HE HAS BEEN LIVING A LIFE THAT MOST WOULDN'T TOLERATE
THERE'S NO WAY I CAN STAND THIS IF IT HAD BEEN ME. I WOULD HAVE SNEAKED OUT TO PLAY

BUT HE CONSIDERED OUR SITUATION AND HAS NEVER COMPLAINED TO US,
AND CONTINUED TO ENDURE.

IF I GO OUT ON MY OWN, I WILL CAUSE
PROBLEMS TO MY FATHER AND MOTHER

USHIWAKA
...

THAT IS WHY, NO MATTER WHAT...
I INTEND TO LET HIM GO OUT!


AS THE SON OF A NOBLE FAMILY, HE CAN EAT DELICIOUS FOOD EVERY DAY.
HE IS A FEW HUNDRED TIMES MORE FORTUNATE THAN ME, AND YET IS IT WORTH IT LIVING A LIFE LIKE THIS?

I WONDER IF HYOUTA IS DOING A GOOD JOB
BEING THE BODY DOUBLE OF A NOBLE... CAN HE REALLY HANDLE IT?
MAYBE HE'S ALREADY MADE A MESS OF THINGS?
WHEN THERE'S AN EMERGENCY HE'S RELIABLE IT'S TRUE BUT DURING NORMAL TIMES HYOUTA...
NO MATTER THE UNDERTAKING HE WILL SUCCEED IN FINISHING IT
IF IT'S HIM, THERE WILL DEFINITELY BE NO PROBLEMS
HUH?
PLEASE... WAIT
PLEASE LET ME REST FOR A WHILE...
ARE YOU NOT FEELING WELL?
USHIWAKA-SAMA?

BECAUSE USHIWAKA HAS NEVER BEEN ANYWHERE BEFORE.
HUH?
IF THIS GOES ON, WE WILL NEVER MAKE IT ANYWHERE.
THERE HE GOES AGAIN, WE JUST FINISHED ANOTHER 2 KM!
THEN THIS IS PRACTICALLY THE FIRST TIME YOU'VE LEFT HOME?
TWO... TWO YEARS OLD...
I HAVEN'T STEPPED OUT OF MY HOUSE,
SINCE I WAS TWO YEARS OLD...
PLEASE LOOK AT THIS.
USHIWAKA-SAMA!

IT'S BEAUTIFUL.
IT'S...
.....

OH, RIGHT. KAJIKA
PLEASE TAKE YOUR TIME TO ENJOY THEM WHILE WE PROCEED.
THERE ARE SO MANY MORE BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS!
YOU'VE NEVER SEEN THESE IN YOUR GARDEN, RIGHT?
THIS IS A BELLFLOWER. THESE ONLY BLOSSOM IN THE HIGH MOUNTAINS.

USHIWAKA-SAMA, PLEASE STAND UP FOR A WHILE
WAH, AH...
DON'T WORRY, PLEASE LOOK AHEAD
HUH?
WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING... IT'S DANGEROUS.
!!

NO... IT'S NOT THE SAME! IT'S NOT THE SAME AS WHAT I HAD IMAGINED IT TO BE!
IT'S TOTALLY DIFFERENT
...
IT'S GREAT, RIGHT? THIS IS THE CAPITAL!

HUGE!
THE CAPITAL IS ACTUALLY...
USHIWAKA-SAMA, IT'S GREAT TO BE OUTDOORS, RIGHT?
YEAH! THANK YOU!
THANK YOU, HYOUTA!
THANK YOU, EVERYONE.

WE'VE DECEIVED YOU...
I'M SORRY, HYOUTA-DONO.
OH— RIGHT, WHERE ARE HYOUTA-DONO'S PARENTS?
...
LET USHI-WAKA TAKE A REST FOR A WHILE...
IT'S ALL RIGHT, IT'S NOT A CONCERN!
HU...
I'M SUCH A GOOD PERSON!
I HAVE NEVER SEEN THEIR FACES.

BECAUSE WE NEEDED TO FEED OURSELVES!
ヒョイ
ヒョイ
ヒョイ
HUH?
WHEN I WAS TWO YEARS OLD I WAS PICKED UP BY THE "CENTIPEDE" UNCLE BY THE RIVER.
"CENTIPEDE" UNCLE TOOK IN A COUPLE MORE ORPHANS WHEN I WAS FOUR YEARS OLD AND HE TAUGHT US ALL ACROBATICS
ガシャ
WHEN "CENTIPEDE" UNCLE DIED, WE CAME TO THE CAPITAL.
YOU DON'T KNOW YOUR PARENTS
HUH?
WE DON'T HAVE THE RIGHT TO FEEL LONELY JUST BECAUSE WE DON'T HAVE PARENTS OR BECAUSE "CENTIPEDE" UNCLE DIED

HYOUTA ...
ぱふっ
コロン
コロン
コロン
SO PITIFUL...
YOU MUST FEEL VERY LONELY..
FROM TODAY ON,
TREAT ME AS YOUR MOTHER..

I... I DON'T FEEL LONELY ...
JUST BECAUSE I'M USHIWAKA NOW...
REALLY... THERE IS NO CHOICE UHH...
Hug
MOTHER.

SUCH A BEAUTIFUL PERSON FOR A MOTHER IT'S REALLY NOT BAD!
IF I TELL KAJIKA AND THE REST,
THEY WILL DEFINITELY BE FULL OF ENVY
UHH... I'D HOPED TO TELL THEM EARLIER
HEY— THE RICE HAS NOT BEEN SENT HERE YET?

ANYWAY, IT'S NOT RICE FOR THE TOP OFFICIALS BUT I'M STARVING TO DEATH...
THE MAN DELIVERING THE RICE SEEMS TO BE SLOW...
ME TOO
ピタッ
JUST BECAUSE OF ONE ORDER FROM KIYOMORI, THESE PEOPLE HAVE TO KEEP GUARD OUTSIDE
IT'S REALLY HARD WORK...
WAIT, WAIT!
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU ARE DOING?
AH!!
ドドドド
WHAT HAPPENED? IT'S SO NOISY INSIDE...

USHIWAKA-SAMA!
EEK
USHI-WAKA-SAMA,
THIS IS DAINAGON-SAMA ORDERS.
VERY SORRY, BUT PLEASE FORGET ABOUT GOING OUT!
NO, I'M NOT GOING OUT!
HUH?

EVERYONE! IT HAS BEEN DIFFICULT PROTECTING USHIWAKA!
TODAY I AM IN A GOOD MOOD, PLEASE COME INTO THE HOUSE AND HAVE DINNER!
Chatter
US?
DI DINNER...
IF YOU DON'T EAT, THE REST OF THEM ALSO WILL NOT EAT?
HUH?
SFX FWIP
YOU ARE THE LEADER?
HE ACTUALLY WANTS TO INVITE THESE LOW-CLASS PEOPLE FROM HEIKE FOR A MEAL? IS HIS HEAD ON STRAIGHT ?
WHAT IS THIS GUY TALKING ABOUT?
!?
YES! MY NAME IS GAZAN NACHIRA
BUT OUR DINNER IS BEING TAKEN CARE OF BY SOMEONE ELSE.
USHIWAKA-SAMA, I'M VERY GRATEFUL FOR YOUR GOODWILL.

シャコ
SFX SHINK
SFX WHISH
WHAT?

YOU HAVE TO EAT!
INVITE SOMEONE FOR A MEAL
IS THERE A NEED TO BE LIKE THIS?
I GOT IT.
IF YOU ARE SO INSISTENT ON IT, I WILL HAVE TO OBEY THE ORDER.
YEAH!
PLEASE HANDLE IT, HASAKA.
GOT... GOT IT
WHAT IS THIS GUY THINKING?

HEY... LOOK AT THESE DISHES...
IT WILL ONLY BE NICE IF YOU EAT RICE IN BIG MOUTH-FULS.
COME! HERE, HERE!
ACTUALLY HAVING DINNER WITH THE SON OF GENJI'S GENERAL ...
BUT IS THIS OK? LOW RANKING SAMURAIS, PEOPLE LIKE US...
THESE KIND OF DISHES... WE ONLY GET TO EAT THIS WHEN WE CELEBRATE THE NEW YEAR!
THIS IS WHITE RICE !
THIS IS NOT THE YAM PORRIDGE THAT WE USUALLY EAT...
IF YOU WANT TO EAT TOGETHER, YOU HAVE TO SIT CLOSER INSIDE!
Can't chit-chat like this!
Huh?
ガ カチャチャ
COME CLOSER! YOU'RE TOO FAR AWAY!
WHAT'S WRONG?
NO! I DARE NOT WE CAN JUST SIT AT THE CORRIDOR

COME! EAT IT WHILE IT'S HOT!
USHI-WAKA-SAMA...
HA HA HA HA HA!
ヒク ヒク
RIGHT, GAZAN-DONO?
IF YOU GO HUNGRY, YOU WON'T HAVE ENOUGH ENERGY TO CATCH ME IF I SLIP AWAY!

OH...
BECAUSE I HEARD YOU SAYING THAT YOU WERE HUNGRY!
HUH?
WHY DO YOU GO TO SO MUCH TROUBLE TO TAKE CARE OF US?
Huh?
THE DIFFICULTY OF HAVING TO WORK WHEN YOU'RE HUNGRY,
USHIWAKA UNDERSTANDS THAT VERY WELL...

SHIT... SHIT!
AH!
SHIT!
WHY... WHY DOES USHIWAKA-SAMA UNDERSTAND SUCH THINGS?
?
...
IF YOU WANT MORE, USHIWAKA WILL HELP YOU ADD MORE RICE.
FOR... FORGET IT! DON'T BOTHER ME ABOUT SO MANY THINGS! LET'S JUST EAT!
Munch
Munch
Munch
Munch
Munch

THE PERSON WHO EVEN DAINAGON-SAMA COULD NOT IGNORE HAS ACTUALLY TREATED US
BUT I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE IT
OH... I'VE HAD MY FILL
WHAT... WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
WOULD YOU DO THIS?
IF YOUR PLIGHT WAS THE SAME AS USHI-WAKA-SAMA
HUH?
LET ME ASK YOU!
WITH THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN SPYING ON YOU?
CAN YOU REALLY SHARE A MEAL SO JOYFULLY,
OR...
IS USHI-WAKA-SAMA JUST AN INNOCENT FOOL?
THIS... THIS

ホゥ
HE MAY BE A GREAT PERSON WHOM ORDINARY PEOPLE LIKE US WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO FATHOM!
BUT, NO MATTER WHAT IT IS
YAMASE-DONO
HE REALLY MADE US VERY HAPPY!
THAT'S RIGHT!
HE'S JUST A KID. YET HE'S SO CARELESSLY GENEROUS
HIS GENEROSITY MAKES ME FEEL LIKE TREATING HIM TO WHITE RICE IN RETURN
WITH YOUR FINANCIAL SITUATION THE WAY IT IS I DON'T THINK YOU CAN
はっはっはっはっ
THIS THIS IS
はっはっはっ
YOU PEOPLE ...
STOP SLACKING OFF! QUICK, GET BACK TO WORK!
……

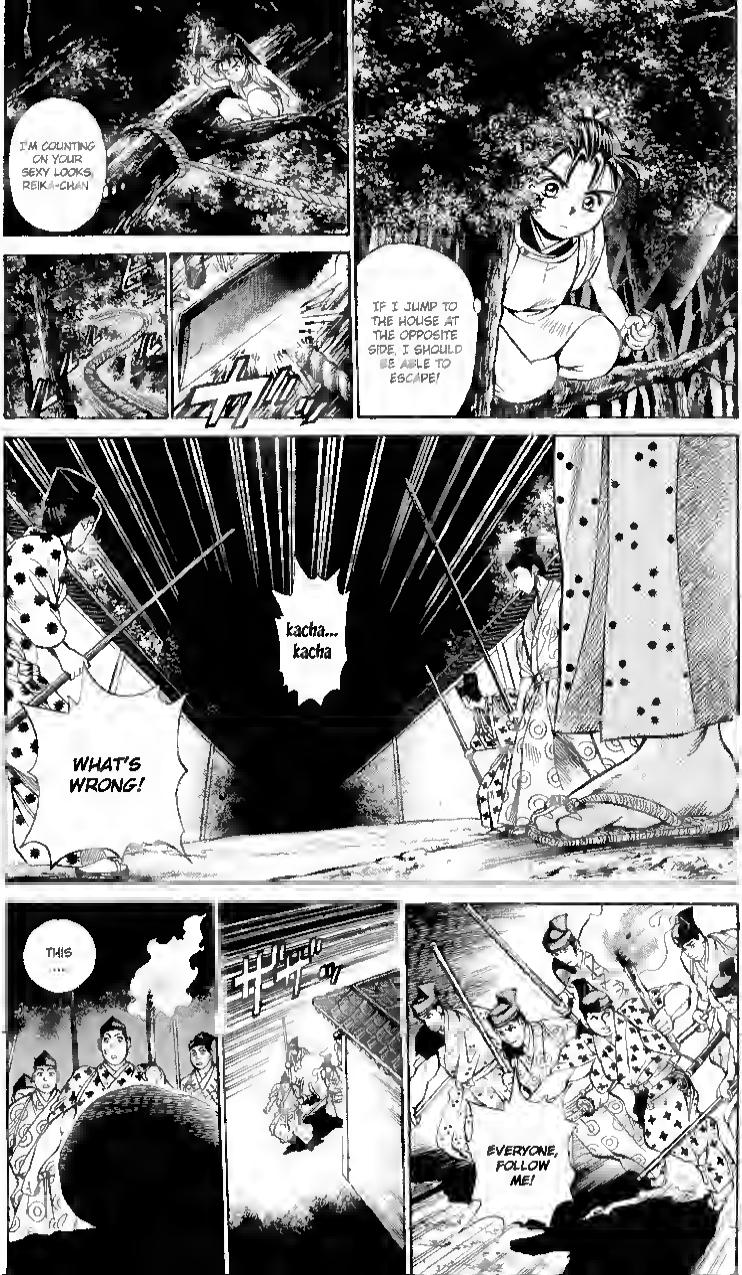
I FEEL SO SICK!
UGH... I ATE TOO MUCH!
LOOK AT WHAT YOU HAVE DONE!
STUPID IDIOT!
げぇっ
YOU ARE REALLY SO CHILDISH, USHIK, WA
ふう
WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU? I'M GOING TO THROW UP THE FOOD I JUST ATE!
STOP NAGGING! I'LL NEVER LET YOU BUNGLE AGAIN!
IF YOU GAVE THE SLIP AWAY, WHAT WOULD YOU DO?
...

THIS... THIS IS...
GOZEN-SAMA!
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
THAT MEDICINE IS...!
THAT ...
WITHOUT THIS MEDI-CINE...
THIS IS USHIWAKA'S MEDICINE USHIWAKA HAS A DISEASE OF THE CHEST.
WHAT IS THAT?
WHY IS IT STILL HERE?
I AM VERY SORRY! I FORGOT TO PUT IT IN!

WILL HE DIE?
...
WHAT SHALL WE DO ...
BUT IF WE SEND SOMEONE, THE PEOPLE FROM THE HEIKE WILL DEFINITELY FOLLOW.
THEN USHIWAKA'S HIDING PLACE WILL BE DISCOVERED
GOZEN-SAMA, HE WILL IF WE DON'T DELIVER IT QUICKLY!
AH!
LET ME DELIVER IT!
SAYING FOOLISH THINGS AGAIN!
HUH?

DID YOU SEE THOSE PEOPLE JUST NOW? THEY ARE ALL SPYING ON YOU!
YOU DEFINITELY CAN'T DO IT!
IT MAY BE TOO LATE TO THINK OF OTHER WAYS.
YOU CAN'T!
I CAN'T LET YOU TAKE SUCH A RISK AGAIN.
UHH
IT'S ALL RIGHT, LEAVE IT TO ME!
IF USHIWAKA DIES, THEN I WILL BE DRIVEN OUT OF HERE IN THAT CASE I WILL NOT BE ABLE TO EAT SUCH GOOD FOOD.
I DEFINITELY WANT TO SAVE USHIWAKA.
HYOUTA

WE CAN ONLY LEAVE IT TO HIM NOW
IS IT REALLY ALL RIGHT?
HYOUTA ...
PLEASE!
THIS IS REALLY TRICKY...


I'M COUNTING ON YOUR SEXY LOOKS, REIKI-CHAN
IF I JUMP TO THE HOUSE AT THE OPPOSITE SIDE, I SHOULD BE ABLE TO ESCAPE!
kacha... kacha
WHAT'S WRONG!
THIS ....
EVERYONE, FOLLOW ME!

WHAT IS THIS THING? IT'S SO UGLY!
Is it a voodoo doll?
THEY WERE TRICKED! LET'S DO IT NOW!

WAH!
WH-WHAT?
ジャッ
THIS IS NOT GOOD! IF I STAY HERE
SHIT
URGH!
ズシャッ
OH, NO!

ズ
GAZAN-
DONO

USHIWAKA-SAMA, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
WITHOUT MEDICAL ATTENTION HIS CONDITION COULD GET WORSE!
BUT THERE WON'T BE A DOCTOR HERE, SO DEEP IN MOUNTAINS!
せ"
せ"
せ"
せ"
WHAT WHAT TO DO...?
COUGH
COUGH
WE'RE ONLY HALFWAY TO FUJIWARANO MITSUHITO HOUSE...
SINCE IT'S SO SERIOUS HE CAN'T WALK ANY FURTHER...
AT TIMES LIKE THIS I FIND MYSELF WISHING HYOUTA WAS AROUND
DON'T SAY THINGS LIKE THAT. BE QUIET DAIBUTSU!

LOOK USHI-WAKA-SAMA THIS IS THE BELLFLOWER.
YOU MUST GET WELL QUICKLY!
WILL HE DIE...?
USHIWAKA...
HYOUTA...
YOU WERE WILLING TO ACT AS MY DOUBLE. THANK YOU.
HYOUTA...
I CAN SEE YOUR FACE...
MOTHER... ALTHOUGH IT WAS JUST A GLIMPSE, IN THE END I GOT TO SEE THE OUTSIDE WORLD.
USHI-WAKA FEELS SO VERY HAPPY

THIS IS SO CLOSE. ♡
!?
HYOUTA!!
WHY ARE YOU HERE?

I BROUGHT YOUR MEDICINE. IT WILL BE ALL RIGHT NOW
USHIWAKA,
USHIWAKA-SAMA WILL BE ALL RIGHT?
THAT'S RIGHT
LUCKILY YOU GUYS DIDN'T GET TOO FAR. IT'S REALLY FORTUNATE
I'M NOT QUITE SURE HOW I MANAGED IT...
B-BUT... HOW DID YOU MANAGE TO GET OUT?
HE LIVES UP TO THE REPUTATION OF THE LEADER OF THE NOKISHITA GROUP
PHEW— THIS IS GREAT! HYOUTA IS GREAT!

ARE YOU THINKING ABOUT USHI-WAKA-SAMA?
GAZAN-DONO, WHAT HAPPENED?
AH ...
USHIWAKA-SAMA!

PLEASE GO BACK!
IT'S URGENT,
YOU HAVE TO LET USHIWAKA LEAVE.
KACHA
CHINK
GAZAN-DONO
HUH!
AH, AH...
HE... HE CAN'T BE

USHIWAKA-S/MA, PLEASE RETURN.
IF YOU DO NOT RETURN, WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO FOLLOW ORDERS AND USE FORCE.
IT'S NO USE STOPPING ME.
USHIWAKA NEEDS TO LEAVE AT ALL COST.
IF I CAN'T LEAVE NOW...

THEN PLEASE KILL USHIWAKA.
ゴクッ
USHIWAKA -SAMA!

IT'S A CAT.
ギロッ
HUH?
AH.
?
KACHA
IT'S A CAT!
IT'S A CAT!
IT'S A CAT!
IT'S A CAT!
RIGHT... RIGHT! IT'S A CAT!
IT'S ONLY A DIRTY CAT!

EVERYONE, GET BACK TO YOUR POSITIONS
IT'S ONLY A WILD CAT!
...
YES!
USHIWAKA WILL DEFINITELY... RETURN BY TONIGHT!
GA... GAZAN-DONO!

USHIWAKA PROMISE!
DEFINITELY!
GET OUT OF HERE!
NOISY CAT...
THAT LOOK... THE GAZE OF A MAN THAT IS DETERMINED TO REACH HIS GOAL EVEN IF IT MEANS CERTAIN DEATH.
THE EYES OF A MAN!
ペタッ
ﾀｯﾀｯﾀｯ

A CHILD THAT IS ONLY SEVEN YEARS OLD...
YOU SAW THROUGH ME.
IF USHIWAKA-SAMA HAD REALLY INTENDED IT FOR IT TO BE THAT WAY, THEN I WOULD HAVE KILLED HIM.
NO! GAZAN-DONO,
DIDN'T YOU USE YOUR SWORD TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE OTHER PARTY INTENDS TO USE THAT MEAL AS A WAGER?
YAMASE
YOU THINK IT'S BECAUSE I WANT TO REPAY HIM FOR THAT MEAL? THAT'S WHY I LET HIM GO?
THAT'S THE MA-KING OF A SAMURAI!
BUT... HE FEARLESSLY WAGERED HIS LIFE..
HE IS NOT SOMEONE THAT PEOPLE LIKE US CAN HANDLE
HIS INTENTIONS WERE NOT TO MAKE US INDEBTED TO HIM.
ぶっ...!!

I GUESS THEY WOULD REFER TO A PERSON LIKE THAT.
WHEN ONE REFERS TO SOMEONE WHO CAN CHANGE THE WORLD,
WHEN I LOOK AT THAT CHILD...
SOMETIMES I FEEL THIS INDESCRIBABLE HAPPINESS.
ワス・
IT... IT SEEMS THAT HE SUCCEEDED....
EVEN GOZEN-SAMA HAS BECOME STRANGE...
THAT LOW-CLASS, TASTELESS KID?

I HAVE STOPPED COUGHING, SO I SHOULD BE ALL RIGHT NOW!
HOW ARE YOU? BETTER?
BUT... WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL US?
THAT'S RIGHT! IF WE'D KNOWN THAT YOU ARE SICK.
WE WOULD'VE WALKED EVEN SLOWER
I KNOW ...
TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY?
IT'S BECAUSE I HAD BEEN HOPING TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO BE MORE LIKE A NORMAL PERSON

I WILL NOT LIVE LONG...
HUH?
I HEARD IT FROM ONMYOUJI SHIRAN.
THERE IS NO MISTAKE!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? I KNOW OF A "OTTER" GRANDMA THAT ALWAYS SAYS
THAT SHE WILL DIE SOON, BUT SHE IS STILL ALIVE AND KICKING AT 98 YEARS OLD!
YOU WILL ALSO

ONMY-OUJI?
WHAT A JOKE! YOU BELIEVE THAT CRAP?
I'M GONNA PUNCH THAT GUY OUT!
COUGH
COUGH
COUGH
HEY... ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? ISHIWAKA?
STOP TALKING, GET SOME REST!
COUGH
COUGH
HUH?
HYOUTA ...
HOLD TIGHTLY
IF...
IF ANYTHING WERE TO HAPPEN TO ME

AT THAT TIME, HYOUTA,
PLEASE CONTINUE TO BE ACT AS USHIWAKA-MARU!
USHI-WAKA-SAMA!
COUGH
COUGH
YOU WANT ...
YOU WANT ME TO PRETEND TO BE USHIWAKA PERMANENTLY?
END OF CHAPTER 2

Shana oh Yoshitsune

by Hirofumi Sawada

Brought to you by Dragon Voice
(http://dragonvoice.org)

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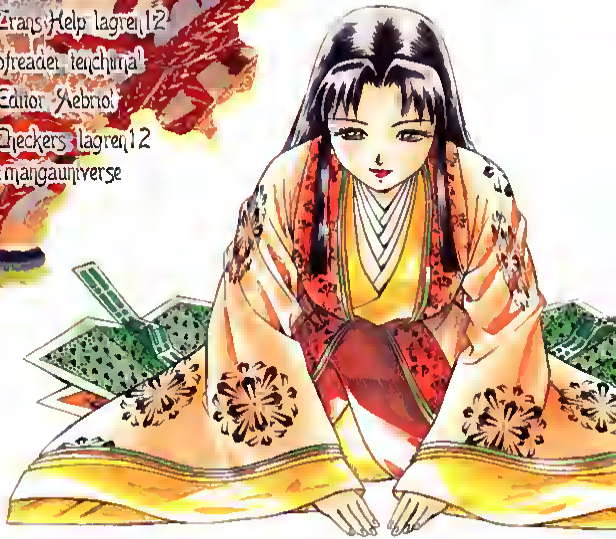
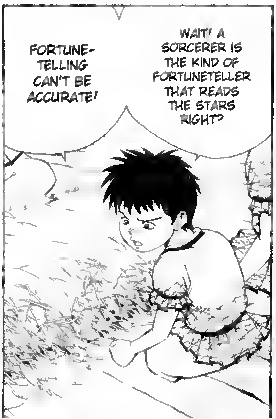


CHAPTER 3

DECK THE TREE WITH FALSE BLOSSOMS

WHEN THAT TIME COMES, HYOUTA...
PLEASE CONTINUE TO BE USHIWAKA FOREVER!

M-ME.. BE USHIWAKA..
FOREVER?!

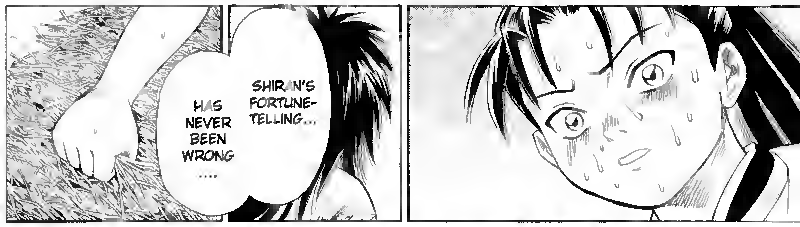

FORTUNE-TELLING CAN'T BE ACCURATE!
WAIT! A SORCERER IS THE KIND OF FORTUNETELLER THAT READS THE STARS RIGHT?

How can this be? Master Ushiwaka-maru doesn't have long to live...

COUGH
COUGH
ARE YOU OK?

AND YOUR SICKNESS WILL BE CURED, TOO, USHIWAKA-SAMA.
FROM NOW ON JUST PLAY A LOT, YOUR BODY WILL BECOME STRONGER!
THAT'S RIGHT! YOU CAN'T BELIEVE IN THAT KIND OF THING!
I REMEMBER AN OLD MAN WHO USED TO BE A FORTUNETELLER EVERYBODY WENT TO SEE HIM ABOUT THEIR PROBLEMS
BUT HE DIDN'T PREDICT ANYTHING RIGHT, AND EVERYONE BEAT HIM UP!
FINDING HYOUTA WAS NOT A COINCIDENCE
IT WAS ALL PREDICTED BY SHIRAN.
SHIRAN'S ABILITY IS EXTRAORDI-NARY.
THAT'S WHY WE WERE ABLE TO FIND SOMEONE WHO LOOKS EXACT-LY LIKE USHIWAKA TO BE A SUBSTITUTE.

SHIRAN ...
H-HOW CAN IT BE... IF THIS IS TRUE...
USHIWAKA -SAMA...
ONLY ... ONLY HAS 10 YEARS LEFT TO LIVE!


SHIRAN'S FORTUNE-TELLING... HAS NEVER BEEN WRONG ....

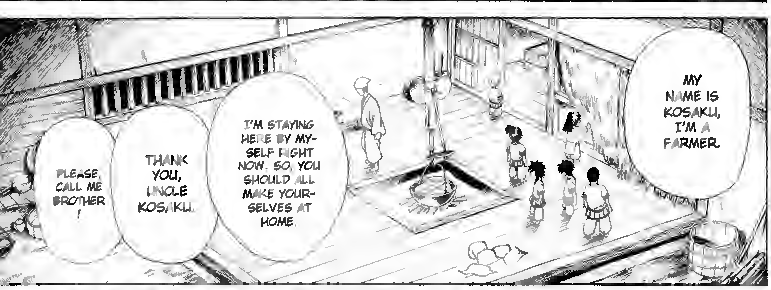
しーーん…
ONLY 10 YEARS LEFT …
SO WHAT IF HE ONLY HAS 10 YEARS LEFT?!
…
ふぁぁぁ
HUH?
HE HAS IT MADE, BEING THE MASTER OF A RICH FAMILY!

W-WHAT?
HE LIVES, DAY TO DAY, WITH NO WORRIES BECAUSE HE IS RICH
BUT THAT SORCERER HAS HIM SO SCARED THAT HE'S EVEN TRYING TO PLAN WHAT WILL HAPPEN AFTER HIS DEATH
IT'S JUST STUPID!
HYOUTA, HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT?
IT'S JUST THAT
IT'S NOTHING LIKE US! WE DIDN'T GET A GOOD MEAL FOR 5 FULL DAYS
WE GET BADLY INJURED IF WE MESS UP DURING PRACTICE
WE'VE COME CLOSE TO DEATH LOTS OF TIMES!
AH—. THAT'S RIGHT! NO FOOD AT ALL—.
WE EVEN ATE SOME WEIRD GRASS ONCE WE JUST FELT WORSE AFTERWARDS
I REALLY FELT LIKE I WAS DYING.
BUT YOU'LL NEVER HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THINGS LIKE THAT
SO, STOP WORRYING ABOUT POINTLESS STUFF—

トン
YES ... BUT ...
EVEN IF YOU ARE SICK IF YOU HAVE THAT MEDICINE IT CAN CURE YOU IMMEDIATELY, RIGHT?
BECAUSE IT WILL NEVER COME TRUE!!
ぼじぼじ
I WILL CONTINUE TO BE USHIWAKA!
OK, HOW ABOUT THIS? IF WHAT THE FORTUNE-TELLER SAID REALLY DOES COME TRUE
RE-REALLY?
WHO ARE YOU?
UGH IT SMELLS REALLY BAD!
IT WON'T STOP BLEEDING...! YOU'LL DIE, YOU'LL DIE!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? HYOUTA, YOU DUG TOO DEEPLY!
どぼどぼ
WAH!

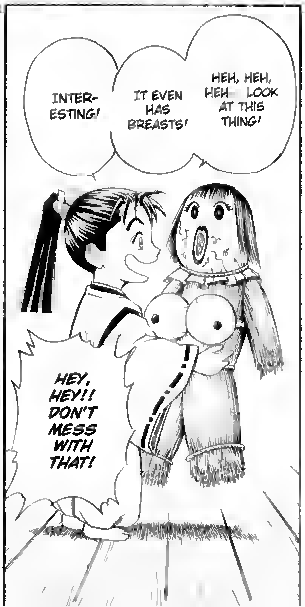
W-WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?
YOU ARE ALL KIDS!
NO WE'RE NOT DOING ANYTHING SUSPICIOUS IT'S JUST THAT...
WHILE TRAVELING, ONE OF US BECAME SICK.
SICK?
HE'S OK NOW!
BUT CAN WE STAY A LITTLE LONGER?
THERE HAVE BEEN BANDITS AROUND HERE LATELY, ITS NOT SAFE HERE!
THE DAY BEFORE YESTERDAY, A NEIGHBORING VILLAGE WAS RAIDED
BANDITS?
ITS SAFER AT MY HOUSE. PLEASE, COME WITH ME !!

WOW!! IT'S PRETTY BIG.
THERE IS EVEN A BED-ROOM.


MY NAME IS KOSAKU, I'M A FARMER.
I'M STAYING HERE BY MY-SELF RIGHT NOW. SO, YOU SHOULD ALL MAKE YOUR-SELVES AT HOME.
THANK YOU, UNCLE KOSAKU.
PLEASE CALL ME BROTHER!

BY THE WAY, LOOKING AT YOUR CLOTHES, ARE YOU NOBILITY?
YEAH, FOR NOW.
FOR NOW?

HEH, HEH
KOSAKU IS REALLY DIRTY


INTER-ESTING!
IT EVEN HAS BREASTS!
HEH, HEH, HEH... LOOK AT THIS THING!
HEY, HEY!! DON'T MESS WITH THAT!

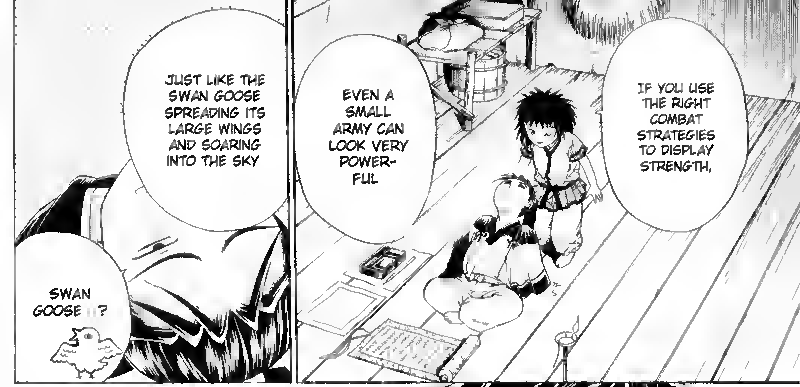
I-IDIOT, YOU WANT TO BE CAUGHT?
AH!

WE ARE CALLED NOKISHITA
OH
YOU'RE ENTER-TAINERS!
THAT WAS TOO CLOSE!
UM ... NO WAY, UNCLE KOSAKU!
THESE CLOTHES ARE OUR COSTUMES. WE'RE JUST ACTORS.
THEY REALLY GET IN THE WAY BETTER TAKE THEM OFF
OK, I'VE DECIDED
LET'S JUST STAY HERE FOR NOW!
WE'LL CALL OFF THE TRIP TO TOWN ...
EH?
WHY THE SUDDEN DECI-SION?
FROM HERE, HYOUTA WILL BE ABLE TO GET BACK QUICKLY, RIGHT?

WILL THESE BE ENOUGH?
...
KLANK KLANK
WAIT, WAIT A MINUTE. ONE OR TWO DAYS IS OK.
BUT FOR A LONG TIME...
I DON'T HAVE ENOUGH FOOD TO CARE FOR SO MANY PEOPLE...
TO BE OF SERVICE TO YOU ALL.
I WILL BE HAPPY..
?
HYOUTA,
THERE IS ALOT OF STUFF I NEED YOU TO DO.

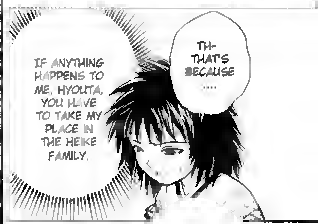
THE RICH KIDS SEEM TO HAVE GONE IN...
...

LOOK, LOOK! WHAT DO YOU THINK?
DOES RIN ALSO LOOK LIKE A KID FROM A NOBLE FAMILY? WEARING HYOUTA'S CLOTHES
YOU LOOK LIKE A KID WHO PUT ON A COSTUME THAT'S TOO BIG
HMPH!
TYING SILK BLOSSOMS ON A DEAD TREE GIVES THE
ILLUSION THAT THE TREE IS HEALTHY
THROUGH THE USE OF ARTIFICE AND DISGUISE
ARTIFICE
MAKE SOMETHING OF NO VALUE APPEAR VALUABLE OF NO THREAT APPEAR DANGEROUS OF NO USE APPEAR USEFUL
VALUABLE USEFUL
WHAT'S THIS? WHAT DOES IT MEAN?


IF YOU USE THE RIGHT COMBAT STRATEGIES TO DISPLAY STRENGTH,
EVEN A SMALL ARMY CAN LOOK VERY POWER-FUL
JUST LIKE THE SWAN GOOSE SPREADING ITS LARGE WINGS AND SOARING INTO THE SKY
SWAN GOOSE!!?

*READ MORE AT HTTP://EN.WIKIPEDIA.ORG/WIKI/THIRTY-SIX_STRATEGIES

SUN TZU'S ART OF WAR*, THE WAY TO FIGHT BATTLES
THE 29TH STRATEGY "DECK THE TREE WITH FALSE BLOSSOMS" OF A TOTAL OF 36 STRATEGIES.



SHIT NOW YOU'VE DONE IT, USHIWAKA
ドン
OOHH
STOP FOOLING AROUND !
LOOK AT ME! MY BODY IS LIGHTER THAN THE SWAN GOOSE
HEH, HEH!
MOUS-TACHE! USHIWA-KA HAS A MOUS-TACHE!
AH, HA, HA, HA HA!
TAKE THAT !!
UWAAAAH !
GET AWAY IDIOT! DON'T COME ANY CLOSER!
YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO USE THE PEN! THIS IS VIOLAT-ING THE RULES!
AH! S- STOP IT USHIWAKA !
ドゴッ
OH YOU CAME FROM IZUMO?
YEAH! IT WAS VERY FAR

DON'T MOVE!

EH?

IT'S THE ONE WEARING THE NOBLE FAMILY CLOTHES.

ガラッ
WHAT'S GOING ON? SO NOISY...
RIN!
!!!
HNPH
H-HYOUTA!
UGH UGH

BRING MONEY TO TOWN TOMORROW MORNING OR WE WILL KILL THE CHILD!
WH-WHAT? YOU WANT US TO CHASE AFTER THOSE BANDITS?
A-ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, HYOUTA?
LET'S GO AFTER THEM!!
HYOUTA ... !!

USHI-WAKA!!
SHIT!
F-FORGET IT! CHASING AFTER THEM IS FOOLISH!
W-WHAT DO WE DO, KAJIKA?
HYOUTA?!
WE CAN'T JUST LET HYOUTA GO ALONE!

GAZAN-DONO,
THAT WILD CAT IS LATE!
I ALREADY KNOW WHAT I MUST DO
HUH?
IF HE DOESN'T RETURN BY DAY BREAK ...
IF BY CHANCE HE ...
ALTHOUGH, IT'S NOT RIGHT TO THINK THIS WAY, SINCE HE IS STILL JUST A KID

パン
...I WILL COMMIT SUICIDE!
TO ATONE FOR MY MISJUDGE-MENT!
YAMASE
DO YOU THINK THIS COUNTRY IS BEAUTIFUL?
HUH?
GA-ZAN-DONO
ACT-ACTUALLY RISK HIS OWN LIFE? DOES HE TRUST IN ISHIWAKA-SAMA SO MUCH ?
IN THIS COUNTRY IF YOU CRITICIZE THE HEIKE FAMILY EVEN SLIGHTLY, YOU WILL GET THE DEATH SENTENCE
"IF YOU DON'T BELONG TO THE HEIKE FAMILY, YOU ARE NOT CONSIDERED HUMAN"

IS KIYOMORI THE ONES LEADING THE HEIKE FAMILY.
THE ONLY ONES THAT CAN BE SATISFIED WITH THIS KIND OF SOCIETY...

BUT THEN — THAT MAY HAVE BEEN A MISTAKE
TO SURVIVE, WE HAD TO COME UNDER THE HEIKE FAMILY.
MY CLAN IS ORIGI-NALLY FROM THE MINATO FAMILY SIDE

ふぅ

GA-GAZAN-DONO, FOR PEOPLE LIKE US WHO TAKE A SALARY FROM THE TAIRA FAMILY
IT'S BETTER NOT TO SAY SUCH THINGS

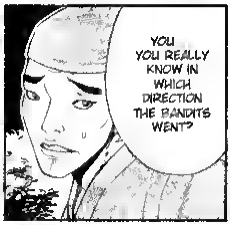
AND I FEEL THAT BELIEVING IN USHIWAKA-MARU IS WORTH THE RISK!!
THIS SOCIETY NEEDS TO CHANGE!
..

S-SORRY.
DAITUTSU, YOU SHOULDN'T TALK ABOUT USHIWAKA. HE CAN'T MOVE BECAUSE HE'S SICK.

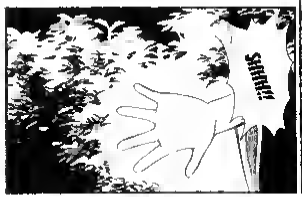
HYUOTA, USHIWAKA-SAMA COULDN'T COME WITH US
HIS LEGS ARE WEAK FROM THE SCARE HE CAN'T EVEN TAKE A STEP. HE'S REALLY HOPELESS

S-SO THAT'S HOW —

SO IF WE FOLLOW THE BRANCHES THAT ARE BROKEN WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO FIND THEM


YOU YOU REALLY KNOW IN WHICH DIRECTION THE BANDITS WENT?

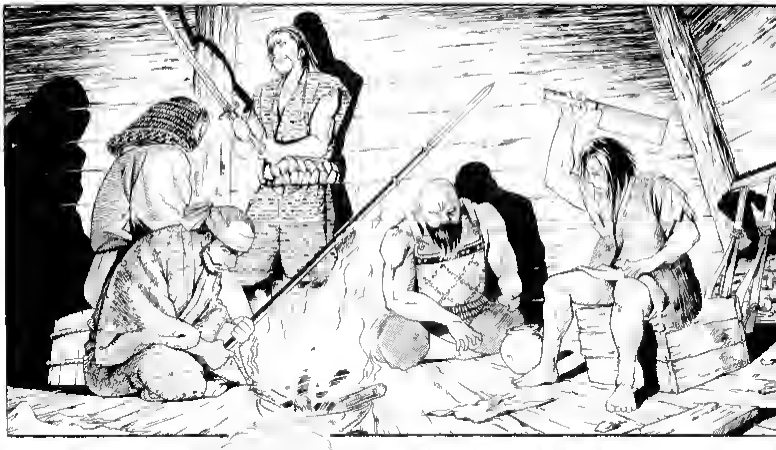
THOSE GUYS WENT THROUGH THIS FOREST IN A HURRY.


SHHH!!

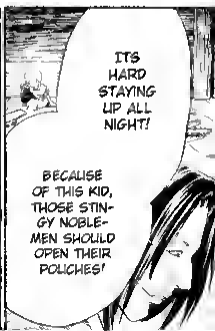
NO!
We can not rely on the Heike family!
SINCE WE FOUND THEIR HIDEOUT, WE NEED TO CONTACT ROKUHARA.

WE HAVE TO SAVE RIN OUR-SELVES!

FOUND IT!



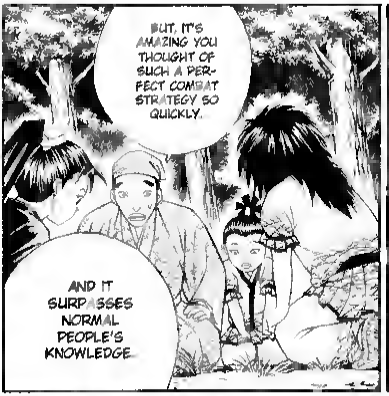
WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO GET A LOT OF MONEY FOR A KID LIKE THIS! HA, HA, HA!
ONCE WE GET THE MONEY, WE'LL TAKE CARE OF THE KID


ITS HARD STAYING UP ALL NIGHT!
BECAUSE OF THIS KID, THOSE STIN-GY NOBLE-MEN SHOULD OPEN THEIR POUCHES!

HE WILL SAVE ME! HYOUTA WILL DEFINITELY COME SAVE ME!
HOW CAN WE SAVE HER?
BUT WE CAN'T DO MUCH AGAINST 5 BIG, STRONG GUYS.
THERE ARE 5 OF THEM, 2 WINDOWS: HERE AND HERE.
KAJIKA, WHAT'S IT LOOK LIKE?
RIN IS TIED UP HERE
ピカッ
DISTRACT THEM.
Y-YOU ....
DISTRACT THE ENEMY'S ATTENTION AWAY FROM RIN-CHAN
W-WHO'S THERE?!

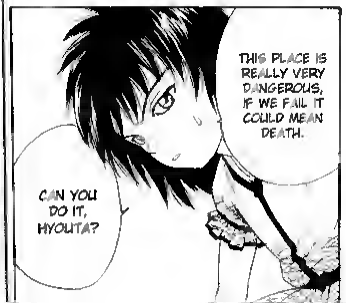
USHIWAKA
!!
LEAVE THE BATTLE STRATEGY TO ME!
I BROUGHT ALL THE USABLE TOOLS WITH ME.
ドゥッ
YOU CAME!

IT'S ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO BELIEVE YOU ARE JUST A CHILD PERFORMER.

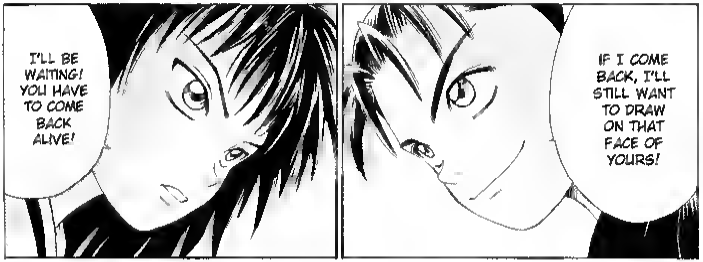

BUT, IT'S AMAZING YOU THOUGHT OF SUCH A PERFECT COMBAT STRATEGY SO QUICKLY.
AND IT SURPASSES NORMAL PEOPLE'S KNOWLEDGE.

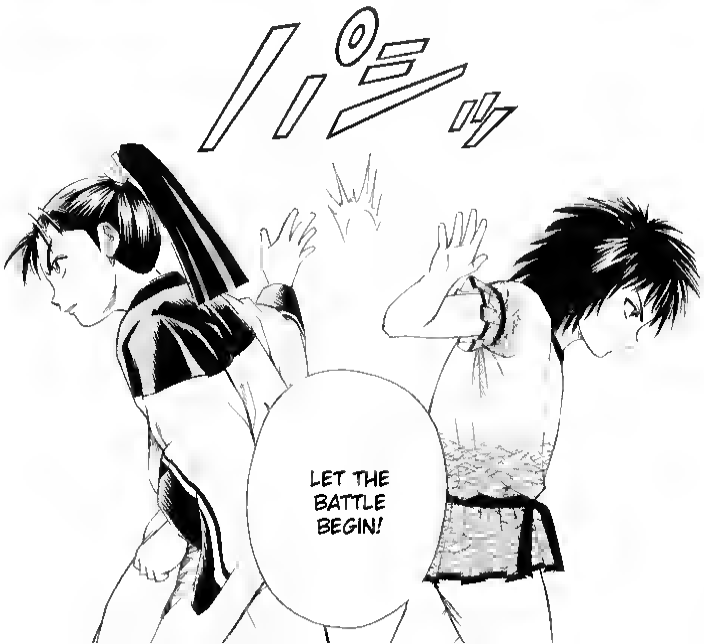
SO THAT'S IT, IT'S POSSIBLE THAT THIS PLAN CAN WORK ...

IT MAY SEEM SIMPLE BUT IT WON'T BE EASY TO PULL OFF.


THIS PLACE IS REALLY VERY DANGEROUS, IF WE FAIL IT COULD MEAN DEATH.
CAN YOU DO IT, HYOUTA?

H-HEY!
LET'S DO IT !!
THIS IS OUR ONLY OPTION
WHETHER OR NOT WE SUC-CEED,


I'LL BE WAITING! YOU HAVE TO COME BACK ALIVE!
IF I COME BACK, I'LL STILL WANT TO DRAW ON THAT FACE OF YOURS!


パシッ
LET THE BATTLE BEGIN!

COME ON, DAMMIT!
BY THIS TIME TOMORROW, WE'LL BE MILLIONAIRES — HAHAHA
AH,
I MUST HAVE DRUNK TOO MUCH
HUH?
HEE HEE HEE ...
HEE HEE HEE ...

AHHHHHHHHH!
WOOO WOOOOOOOO.... WOOO WOOOOOOOO
M-MONSTER!
WHAT?
WHERE?
IT MUST BE THOSE KIDS!

L-LOOK! THE GHOST FIRE OVER THERE, IT'S A MONSTER!
HMPH!
IT CAN'T BE A MONSTER!
I WILL SHOW YOU WHO THE MONSTER REALLY IS!
H-HEY IT'S DANGEROUS! YOU MIGHT GET EATEN
I'LL JUST SLICE THIS "MONSTER" IN HALF!

ポッ
HAH!
HUH?
ポッ
I-IT SPLIT?

DON'T MOVE, BANDITS !!
WHA...?
W-WHAT?

THERE IS NO ESCAPE! SURRENDER NOW!
WE ARE ROKUHARA !
IT'S THE HEIKE OFFI-CIAL!!
RO... ROKU-HARA!

WHAT?!
T-THERE ARE MORE THAN 20 PEOPLE!
SHIT! HOW DID THEY FIND US...?!
ヨン
ヨン
GOOD! ALL THE BANDITS ARE NOW OUT!!

HYOUTA!!!
Been waiting long? ♡
RIN, WE'RE GETTING OUT OF HERE!
THE KID! WE'LL USE THE KID AS A SHIELD!!
IDIOT! THERE'S TOO MANY OF THEM! WE'LL BE THE ONES KILLED!
WHO CARES IF THEY ARE ROKUHARA, JUST KILL ALL OF THEM!
AH!
HEY KID!!
WH-WHAT DO WE DO BOSS?!

WHAT? SHE'S ESCAPING? HURRY UP AND CATCH HER!!
DON'T KILL HER! WE NEED HER FOR PRO-TECTION!
パタ パタ パタ パタ
THERE SHE IS!
RIN, HOLD ON TIGHT!
NO ONE CAN CATCH ME WHEN I RUN AT TOP SPEED!

ドドド

HE'S TRAPPED !
KAJIKA !
IT'S OVER, KID !
HUH ?
HUH?
To
To

GET READY! HERE SHE COMES!
ハッ
ひっ
I-I GOT IT, LEAVE IT TO ME!!

ハッ
ハッ
TA-
DA!

AMAZING ACRO-BATICS!!
HE DID THAT, EVEN WITH SOMEONE ON HIS BACK...
...
...
LAYING YOUR HANDS ON SUCH A YOUNG KID, YOU GUYS MAKE ME SICK
THAT KID IS JUST A PERFORMER. THE REAL NOBLE IS ME.
ザッ
ザッ
IF YOU REALLY WANT MONEY THAT MUCH, THEN COME AND CATCH ME.
ザッ
ザッ

COME ON!
I'VE GOT YOU!
WE CAN USE THIS KID, TOO! CATCH HIM!
PUNK!
EH?
NOW!

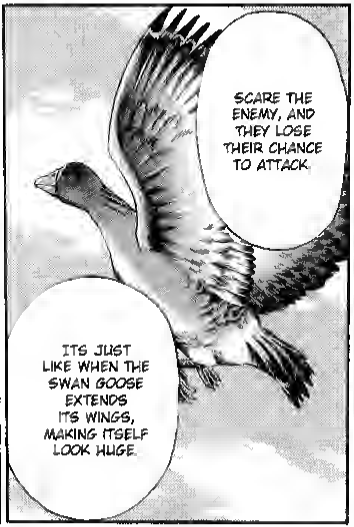
ガシャーン
WHAT THE ...?!
WH-WHAT IS THIS?
AH, HA, HA, HA, HA!
バチン
バチン
YOU FELL INTO THE TRAP! YOU FELL INTO THE TRAP!

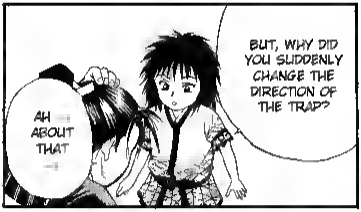
WE DID IT!
YES!!
DID YOU REALLY THINK WE WERE ROKUHARA?
HOW WAS IT?
SHIT!
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU FELL FOR IT! IDIOT!
HA, HA, HA!
IT'S ONLY A BUNCH OF PUNK KIDS!
WH-WHAT?! THEY ARE NOT THE ROKUHARA?!
HYOUTA!

I KNEW YOU WOULD COME!
THANK YOU FOR SAVING ME HYOUTA!
IF THERE'S ANYONE YOU SHOULD THANK IT'S HIM!
EH?
THE MOST IMPORT THING IS THAT YOU ARE SAFE, RIN-CHAN.
THAT'S BECAUSE ISHIWAKA'S PLAN WAS PERFECT!
WE DID IT, HYOUTA!!!
THIS IS SUN TZU'S ART OF WAR!
THE "DECK THE TREE WITH FALSE BLOSSOMS" STRATEGY THAT I TOLD YOU ABOUT BEFORE!

BY HIDING YOUR BODY THE ENEMY CAN ONLY SEE THE FIRE BY USING STICKS IT LOOKS LIKE ONE PERSON IS SIX.
THE ENEMY THINKS THERE IS A LOT OF PEOPLE AND THEY WILL NOT ATTACK SUDDENLY,
AT THE SAME TIME, WE DRAW THEIR ATTENTION AWAY FROM RIN-CHAN.

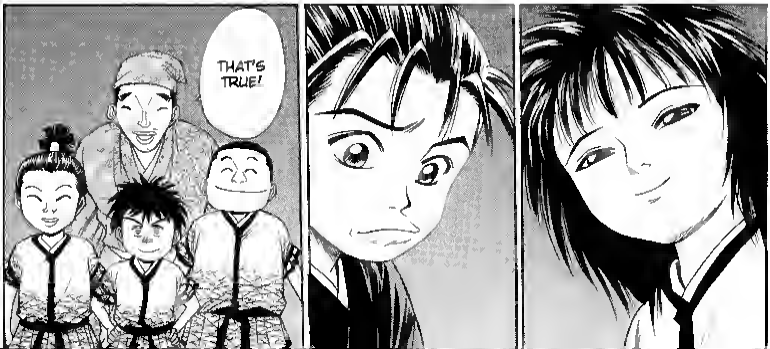
SCARING THE ENEMY AND THEN ATTACKING.
I SEE, SO THIS IS SUN TZU'S ART OF WAR.


SCARE THE ENEMY, AND THEY LOSE THEIR CHANCE TO ATTACK.
ITS JUST LIKE WHEN THE SWAN GOOSE EXTENDS ITS WINGS, MAKING ITSELF LOOK HUGE.


BUT, WHY DID YOU SUDDENLY CHANGE THE DIRECTION OF THE TRAP?
AH— ABOUT THAT—

SORRY! BUT I FELT I HAD TO CHANGE THE PLAN.
SO, I THOUGHT THEY MIGHT NOTICE THAT THERE WERE NAILS ON THE GROUND.
YOU SEE! NORMALLY WHEN A PERSON RUNS WITH ALL HIS MIGHT, THEY WILL LOOK AT THE GROUND, RIGHT?
IF NOT FOR YOU, WE WOULDN'T HAVE SAVED RIN!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT! WE ONLY PULLED IT OFF BECAUSE OF YOUR PLAN!
AMAZING, HE MANAGED TO FIND THE FLAW IN THE STRATEGY IN THE SPACE OF A MOMENT, AND FIX IT.
ALTHOUGH I HAVE READ SUN TZU'S ART OF WAR SO MANY TIMES, I NEVER EVEN THOUGHT ABOUT THAT!
AMAZING, HYOUTA! YOU ARE REALLY AMAZING!
IDIOT YOU'RE THE SMART ONE!
NO, NO IT'S YOUR SKILLS AND SHARP MIND

YOU ARE UNBEAT-ABLE!
WHEN YOU TWO WORK TOGETHER ...


THAT'S TRUE!

IT'S GOING TO BE A GREAT DAY!
IT'S GOING TO BE MORNING SOON, IT'S BEEN A REALLY ROUGH NIGHT!
OH NO! GAZAN-DONO!
END OF CHAPTER 3